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SATURDAY 28 DECEMBER 1996



How went in 🛚

THE MAGAZINE

TRAVEL WEEKEND Where to go

COMMENT laria Vargas Liosa on terror in PETU PAGE 15

Rifkind: Europe is stalled by Britain

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

Britain's "lame-duck" government is oow stalling talks on the future of the European Union, the shadow Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, said last night.
The attack followed an admission

by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, that there would be oo hard oegotiations in the inter-gov-emmental talks on the future of the Union until after the next election. "I doo't expect the oegotiating to become really serious until after our election on the issues where there is a difference between ourselves and the Labour Party," Mr Rifkind told BBC Radio 4's Today

> Because, obviously, what other European governments are waiting to see is if there was a change ofgovernment in this country, then some of the demands from Brussels would simply fall into their lap.

"So... they will wait to see the outcome of the general electioo." Bot, with Conservative ministers now directing all their attention to the campaign for an election that could still be up to four months off, Mr Cook condemned the paralysis

at the heart of the Government. "It is, not only Britain that is now being beld back by this lame-duck government," he told *The Indepen*dent, "but, on the Foreign Secretary's admission, the whole of Europe.

"I am glad Mr Rifkind has admitted that the rest of Europe ex-pects Labour to be elected. He has let out one of the reasons why it is important that the Conservatives more money in government. go; they cannot do business oo important matters on which we gcannot stand still."

The Foreign Secretary's statement also raises the question as to whether any agreement can possiby be reached oo the future-of-pampe package in time for an Amsterdam summit in June.

to be substantive negotiations are to be held until after the election, and the election is delayed until May, there would be insufficient

French stop Kurds aid France announced that it will oot continue in allied surveillance operations over oorthern Iraq. The United States, Turkey and Britain will continue the operation, started in 1991 after the Gulf War to

protect the Kurds. No housing boom

House prices are on a firm upward

cording to the biggest mortgage

lenders. Adoption changes

Voluntary agencies, charch groups and charitable bodies could be given a key role in deciding the suitability of would-be adoptive parents as part of an attempt by John Major to lesseo the influence of path, but not rising fast enough to threaten an unsustainable boom, ac-

time for any government - Tory or Labour - to finalise agreement on a oumber of issues, such as qualified majority voting, that must re-main controversial for both parties. The Conservative strategy is to portray Tony Blair as the Brussels

concede critical elements of British sovereignty in the talks. Labour replies that Mr Blair can be as sceptical as John Major on essential questions, but he does oot have to look over his shoulder at a recalcitrant and rebellious party which gives him oo room for

poodle" who will roll over and

manocuvre in European talks. The extent to which the election campaign will dominate the Westminster and Whitehall agendas for the new year was illustrated by

faither developments yesterday. The Conservative Research Department issued a briefing paper alleging that Labour was about to embark on a "negative campaigning" spree in January; deni-

selling its own positive message. The Tories alleged that Labour was planning to spell out the "nightmare vision" of the country if Mr Major won a fifth term of office.

While Labour claims that the Tories are planning a £7m poster campaign, the Tories said all the cvidence showed that Labour was being relentlessly oegative, with its "Enough is enough" campaign.

Labour is equally conscious of the Conservative capacity for neg-ative campaigning, and is reminding frontbenchers that they must make no statements that might be taken to commit Labour to spend

Ministers last month totted up the costs of every Labour spending commitment they could possibly pin on their opponents, and came up

with a figure of £30bn. That figure will be used to sus-tain a repeat of the highly successful 1992 Conservative election campaign theme; that Labour will have to finance its alleged spending commitments with a secret "tax bombshell" for middle-income

Nurses made confessions 'under extreme pressure'

Artful parcel: A statue well wrapped-up for protection against frost damage standing in the restored early 18th-

Steve Boggan

Confessions allegedly made by two British nurses charged with killing a fellow nurse in Saudi Arabia were extracted under pressure after five days of questioning, according to colleagues of the women in Dhahran. Sources at the King Fahd Military Medical Centre, where Yvonne Gil-

women were told they would be freed if they signed the confessions. Details of the pressure on the women emerged as the family of one, Lucille McLauchlan, 31, held an emotional news conference at which they disclosed that she had called them from prison to

ford, 51, was murdered, claim that the

protest ber innocence. Ms McLauchlan and Deborah Parry, 41, were charged on Christmas Eve with the murder of Yvonne Gilford, in Dhahran. Ms Gilford, an Australian, had

been stabbed four times, beaten over the head with a hammer and smothered in her room on 10 December. A week later, the two British nurses were allegedly caught by a store video camera using her credit cards.

A colleague of the accused, who re-fused to be named, said: "Both girls were questioned for five days without lawyers present. They were told that if they signed a confession, they would be allowed to go home. Nobody here believes that the girls could have dooe this."

Another said there was coocern over a murder two years ago in which a Fil-ipino nurse was stabbed to death. That case remains unsolved, although oo one was available at the medical centre to confirm the details last night. A third ourse said: "Obviously, everyone here is very concerned and very frightened. It is very hard to believe that those girls could have been responsible for such a

brutal murder." During yesterday's oews conference in Ms McLauchlan's home town of Dundee, her mother, Ann, backe down in tears and her father, Stan, isplayed signs of strain. Her brother, ohn, 28, was the only family member to

(He said: "We have spoken to Lucy very briefly on the phone and she has assured

us of her innocence. We are obviously worried sick about her situation and are making efforts to secure the very best legal representation for her. Lucy lived for oursing and has apent all her working life caring for others. Anyone who knows Lucy knows she Family details for Ms Parry, who is mought to come from the Midlands, are inclear. It is understood she told colleagues in Dhahran that her mother, fa-ther, brother and brother-in-law were all dead.

Cold enough for statues to wrap up, for snow to fall in central London... yet it's one of the warmest years on record

Environment Correspondent

Much of lowland Britain received its first snowfall of the winter yesterday, but the world as a whole remained over-heat-

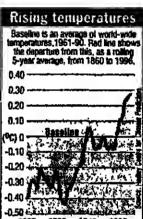
ed this year,
Frost and patchy fog is forecast for the last weekend of 1996
- a year which is turning out to be one of the ten warmest in a record of global temperatures stretching back over 140 years. With almost all the data for the

calendar year gathered in by the Meteorological Office's Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction in Berkshire, it emerges that six of the ten hottest years are from the Nineties and three from the Eighties. This adds to scientists' confidence that they are witcaused by a build-up of heat trap-ping gases in the atmosphere a trend that could have great im-

and wildlife within a few decades. The Hadley Ceotre takes data from more than 1,000 weather stations around the world. "The run of warm years is cootinuing," one of its cli-matologists, Dr David Parker, said. Together with the Uoiversity of East Anglia, the centre keeps temperature records stretching back to 1860 using ob-servations from ships and buoys

as well as on-land stations. The record shows 1995 as the hottest overall year, followed by 1990, then 1991 and 1994; 1996 is expected to be the eighth warmest. From January to November, temperatures around the planet were, on average, 0.23C above the long-term averages for the 30 years between 1961 and 1990. Dr Parker said that with

Games



year after year of temperatures well above average, confidence was growing that this was the "sigchange forecast to accelerate into the next century.

pact on farming, water resources trend may be upwards ... but there will still be cooler years and even cooler decades because of the large natural variability in the climate," he added.

The atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, produced chiefly by hurning fossil fuels and forests, have been rising steadily. As a result the atmosphere's halance of heat radiation shifts, warming the air near the surface and cooling

higher altitudes. The Department of Social Security made its first post-Christmas announcement of areas where vulnerable households or income support will be estitled to extra cold-weather payments of £8.50 to keep warm. The list included five places in Scotland

1990: Di raikei sast tilat willi	and Excente in concise.
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Poverty warning over pensions shortfall that almost a quarter of all a year," Mr Denham said, the North, Wales and Northern ered by any employer's pension half the employer contribution their basic state pensions to their pension that they could to their pensions that they could to their pensions that they could to the pensions to their pensions that they could to the pensions to their pensions that they could to the pensions to their pensions that they could to the pensions that they could the pensions the pensions the pensions that they could the pensions the pensions the pensions the pensions the pensions the pensions tha

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

Millions of people are heading for retirement penury, according to a detailed Labour analy-

sis of official pensions statistics.

Inhn Denham, the shadow pensions minister, said yesterday: "Tory pension policy is like a pensions Titanic. Millions pensions Titanic. Millions of people are sailing unknowingly towards a retirement disaster. Information collated from

that millions of people are not covered by employers' pension schemes; others are making tiny contributions to personal pensions, or are making no sec-

to receive madequate pea-

Mr Denham has discovered

working adults - nearly 6million people - have not made any

pension provision whatever. But of the 5.5 million who have appropriate personal pensions, 4.5 million made monthly minimum contributions of £50

or less in 1994-95. Low contributions and high charges mean that the pension paid will be very low - investing £50 a month would give a final pension of only £2,000 tions to personal pensions are a final pension of only £2,000 being made by people living in private companies are cov-

Yet the average monthly min-imum contribution to all perthan £30 a month. sonal pensions is only £35 a mooth, and in 1994-95 more

sonal pensions made no cootribution at all. According to a Department of Social Security report, Personal Pension Statistics 1994-95, the lowest minimum contributions to personal pensions are

than 1.8 million people with per-

mum contributions are less

A woman who takes a career break of four years to have chil-dren, the national average, will retire oo a personal pension worth almost a third less than a colleague who takes no break; Only six out of 10 employees

Denham mclude:

■ In the I million firms with fewer than 100 employees, few-Other facts uncovered by Mr er than four out of 10 employees are covered by a pension

> ■ Seven out of 10 companies with five or fewer employees do not offer any kind of pension . arrangement

> ■ Most employees in small company occupational pension schemes are likely to get about

mpany scheme. spokesman last night accepted nat while millions were making inadequate provision for their retirement, one of the most widespread complaints was that those who had saved were penalised when it came to

means-tested benefits - with

those who had not saved getting

efit and housing benefit.

Mr Denham said last night, that one of a Labour government's first tasks would be to set

up an independent body to re-port and advise on the state of pension provision.
It would also establish a val-

ue-for-money , "stakeholder pension", offering better pensions for the same level of con-

Adoption law to curb political correctness

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

Voluntary agencies, church groups and charitable bodies could be given a key role in deciding the suitability of would-be adoptive parents in a hid by the Prime Minister to stamp out political correctness in adoption and reduce the influence of social workers.

Joho Major has asked the Downing Street Policy Unit to examine all possible alternatives to local authority social workers who currently carry out the bulk of assessment work, in advance of unveiling a Conservative election manifesto pledge

to reform adoption law. The Policy Unit review comes amid mounting concern about the plight of the 55,000 children in local authority care, a number of whom Mr Major believes could be being denied the chance of a stable adoptive family because of political correctness in council social services departments.

A party source said: "He is concerned about cases such as the couple on a blacklist because they had too many books in the house, or the mixed-race child who had to wait three years while social workers tried to find

a mixed race couple." If the Conservatives win the election, the Government plans to revive the draft adoption Bill which was dropped before this autumn's Queen's Speech. The Bill was axed because of fears that it would re-ignite the fury over family values that had been generated by the divorce their babies.

ing concerns for children moving through a succession of different foster parents or at risk of being institutionalised or abused in care homes, Mr Majur now views reforming adop-tion procedures as a priority for

the next Parliament. The source conceded that most of the expertise in assessment for adoption lay with social work departments in local authorities. But uoder the plans being developed, other bodies, including the religious adoption agencies, children's charities or local church-based groups, would be encouraged to take on a far greater role in the work of matching a child with an adop-

tive family.

The possibility of allowing new organisations to set themselves up as private sector boduntary/charitable sector has not yet been ruled either in or out by Downing Street. But a fullscale "privatisation" of adoption assessment - which would provoke warnings about "baby-farming" practices common in some overseas countries - is believed to be unlikely.

The assessment of prospec tive adopters would be carried out within a strict legal framework setting out the rights of natural parents, children and

prospective adopters.
The Government hopes that widening the field will lead to a cultural change in favour of adoption as a natural choice for women, as it once was, who face difficulties in looking after

Full-time attack on Asda chief

Anthony Bevins

Labour warned vesterday that the voters of Tuobridge Wells would be "short-changed" if they voted for the Tory candidate Archie Normao at the next election - because the Asda chairman believes that be-

ing an MP is not a full-time job. Mr Norman said io a pre-Christmas interview with the hirkshire Post that for this reason he hoped to stay on as parttime chairman of the store group for another three years.

That provided Labour campage spokesman Brian Wilson to reply: "Most MPs find that constituency and parliamentary work add up to something more than a full-time job. The idea that you ean also run a gro-cery chain is bizarre ... With an attitude like this, it would be no surprise if Tunbridge Wells de-

cides to express its disgust." Despite Mr Wilson's protestations, a significant minority of MPs do treat the Commons as a part-time place of employment. A number of former ministers who are standing down from Parliament at the

next election have already taken up time-consuming and lucrative outside jobs, including Richard Needham, who has joined GEC, and Tristan Garel-Jones, who is advising the Union Bank of Switzerland Biwater International, British Gas and BP Exploration. But the part-time element is

by no means confined to the Tory henches. Labour MPs are as prone as Turies, and others, to upt out of the routine parliamentary husiness of making speeches and asking questions.

An Independent analysis published in March 1990 showed that in the 1988-89 Commons session, a total of 19 MPs were literally speechless in the Chamber. Six of those MPs were Labour, 10 were Tories and three were from minority parties.

Mr Norman, who hopes to succeed retiring Northern Ire-land Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew as MP for Tunbridge Wells, recently joked to Tatler magazine that after working that out for the years at Asda, he hoped being an MP would, uniquely in his case, let him spend more time with his famile.



Under arrest: Police removing a protester from the camp yesterday Photograph: Tim Cuff rare plants.

Bailiffs swoop on road protest camp

camped on the route of a £65m road scheme turned the rural site into a "waste dump", ac-cording to the official who led their eviction yesterday.

The Under Sheriff of Devon

Theyor Coleman, removed the five protesters in an early moming swoop on the camp at Aller-combe, east Devon, with the belp of 20 bailiffs and 30 police. They were asleep in tree-bouses when the authorities

moved in at the spot known lo-cally as Sleepy Hollow. A man and a woman were arrested.

"I am disappeared that for so-called environmental protesters they have taken little care of their immediate environment, and the site resembles a

waste dump," said Mr Coleman. Around 100ft of minuels dug by the protesters were excavat-ed by a mechanical digger after being inspected by an expert and Mr Coleman admitted They were more extensive than we expected."

A climbing specialist was on hand as trees carrying the network of aerial walkways and "twigloo" dwellings were cut

said the camps were on full alert, and the call had already gone out nationwide for more The eviction followed the

refusal of protesters to comply with a notice issued by the Uoder Sheriff in November giving, them 48 hours to move voluntarily.

Possession orders for the sites were granted to the road construction consortium Connect and the Highways Agency in October.

The three camps were set up over two years ago on the route of the 13-mile Honiton to Exeter A30 scheme - part of the 65-mile upgrading and im-provement of sections of the A30 and A35 road between Exeter and Bere Regis in Dorset.

The protesters claim the road will destroy ancient trees and animal habitats, as well as blight the countryside, and increase air and noise pollution.

But local residents, who have been promised a bypass since 1929, back the scheme.

The road builders say the scheme will relieve local communities of the effects of heavy traffic. They anticipate that up to 3,600 road casualties - including over 100 deaths - will be avoided over the next 30 years. They have pledged to pro-vide extensive landscaping, over 200,000 new trees, and ecological measures including bat boxes, badger tunnels and setts and the preservation of

significant shorts

Missing girl Multiple birth found hanged mother in forest

The body of a reepage girl whose disappearance had sparked a massive police search was yesterday found hanging in woodland near her home. her home. Stephanie Edmunds, 16. vanished on Christinas Eve after a few with her father at their home in Rhigos, near Hiswann, South Wales.

Mounted police and a helicopter were brought in to help comb hillsides near Stephanie's home after her friends revealed that she had not spent Christmas with . them. A police spokeswoman said "We would like to speak to anyone who may have seen her since Christmas Eve or who can give any information concerning her state of mind," she said.

Teenager dies of meningitis

A 14-year-old girl has died from suspected meningitis and another teenager and a baby from the same area of the North-East are being treated in hospital, it was disclosed yesterday. Donna Thomson of

Oxclose, Washington, Tyne and Wear, died in the intensive care unit of Newcastle General Hospital some of the focuses. But on Christmas Eve, a day after she miscarried them all at. being found seriously ill by 19 weeks in October, her parents. She was thought 19 weeks in October. to have been suffering from the meningococcal strain, the disease's most serious form. The other cases which

have come to light on Wearside are an unnamed 16 year old girl from the Shiney Row area, near Washington. and a baby from Southwick.

Ambulance in deadly game Teenage joyriders twice

rammed an ambulance answering an emergency call in the Twinbrook area of West Belfast yesterday and blocked its path. Three cars played "cat and mouse" before forcing it to halt. A crowd of drunken youths gathered and directed a torrent of abuse ar the crew and then hurled beer cans and other missiles at the ambulance, threatening to set it on fire with the crew inside.

arrested

Mandy Allwood (below), who earlier this year lost eight babies she was expecting following fertility treatment has been arrested by police, it emerged yesterday. Miss Allwood, 31, was questioned by officers in Solihull, West Midlands, about alleged fraud offences understood to



She was interviewed by local frand squad officers a week ago and bailed to report back to Solibuli police station on 7 February, pending further inquiries.
Miss Allwood continued with her multiple pregnancy despite some medical opinion that it would be safer to abort

High-jinks prove costly

A British man taking his terminally-ill wife on their last holiday together was arrested after becoming drunk on the flight and assaulting an elderly

The 47-year-old man from Blackpool became violent after drinking a "considerable" amount of whisky oo the American Airlines flight to Chicago, He assaulted the 76 year-old; woman sitting in front of him and then attempted to kick a flight attendant in the stomach before he was restrained with plastic

handcuffs. The flight crew diverted the plane to land at Goose Bay, Newfoundland, where the man, who has not been named, was arrested questioned.

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

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Will house prices hit the roof again?

Lenders hail a recovery built on firm ground

Diarre Coyle Economics Editor

mother

RCC III

11116,

House prices are oo a firm upward path, but are not rising fast enough to threaten an unsustainable boom, accord-ing to some of the country's biggest mortgage lenders. Their New Year forecasts proclaim that the housing recovery is built oo solid foundations.

The biggest lenders, the Halifax, Abbey National and Nationwide, predict an increase of 7 to 8 per cent in house prices m 1997, about the same as the past 12 months.

Leoders are eager to eocourage the recovery in their business but are nervous about the echoes of the late-1980s house-price boom. Their cautious forecasts contrast with huoyant surveys of home buyers, and with some experts who forsee even bigger price gains next year than this.

The Government is walking the same tightrope as the banks and boilding societies. The Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine, talked up the feel-good effect on voters of the housing boom in a Boxing Day radio interview. However, the Chancellor and the Prime Minister have promised that there will be no return to the

days of boom and bust. Views on the state of the housing market do seem to be polarising between those who predict a boom and those who predict the market will settle down on a more modest growth path. My view rests in the latter camp," said Andrew Clark, chief economist for the Brad-Ford & Bingley building society.

It is a view shared by the Nationwide, which yesterday predicted house prices would increase by 7 per cent in 1997. lower than the rise of more than 8 per cent in 1996. It said the recovery was "soundly based".

We expect more existing home owners to enter the market next year and this is likely supply bottlenecks case," said ing prophecy."

Philip Williamson, commercial director. The society reckons

supply shortages have distorted the recovery so far.

The Nationwide said increases in double digits were confined to Londoo and the South-east Across the country, average bouse prices had dipped fractionally in Decem-ber to a level 8.5 per cent high-

er than a year earlier. The Halifax publishes its latest monthly figure next week, but has forecast price rises of 7-8 per cent in both 1997 and 1998, a shade higher than the 7-per-cent increase that it measured in 1996. It argues that the market will be steadier than it has been for the past 25 years. The Nationwide and Halifax.

which both underestimated the extent of house price increases in 1996, believe that the number of sales will increase sharply

In spite of their measured outlook, home-owners are increasingly optimistic about the housing market. One in two people now believes the value of their home will increase during the next 12 months compared with only one in three at the start of the year, according 10 a survey published yesterday.

Almost two-thirds of those surveyed in Londoo and the South-east expected their homes to rise in value in the coming year, according to the survey by Barclays Mortgages. There was least optimism in the north-west, Yorkshire and Humberside, where only two out of five expected a price rise.

Barclays Mortgages market-ing director Jim Chadwick said: "It's reassuring to see predictions for housing market recovery coming from those with the power to make it happen - actual home-buyers." The investment bank UBS

has predicted an increase of 10 David Miles, professor of

economics at Imperial College, said: "Once prices do start to in-



Signs of the times: 'Sold' stickers cover this estate agent's window in Greenwich, London

Agents urge caution before confidence

Britain's estate agents - not nor-mally noted for understatemeni - moved quickly yesterday to rein in Michael Haseltine alter his prediction of a boom to

come" in the housing market. The Deputy Prime Minister's comments were received with scepticism by a body of profes-sionals well known for verbal derterity. Today's agents are ic-buying conditions which deceloped prior to the ultimately disastrous housing boom of

There's no movement in prices in this part of the world." said James Wick, of the Humberside chain James Wick and Partners. "A lot more properties are selling at their asking prices but we've seen absolutely no up-

ward movement in prices. Agents reported a significant increase in sales inquiries. and a minor upture in transactions but oegligible rises in

Modern houses in the Home Counties, London flats and terraced homes in the north were all said to be stuck in a stagnant

Prices of good quality family homes sold in the south-east are on the rise but partly because so few sellers are prepared to put their properties on

Mr Heseltine heralded a future housing boom in a BBC radio interview on Boxing Day, in which he praised the Prime Minister for creating the "most extraordinary economic cir-Comstances"

The word on Britain's high streets yesterday was that, having seen the effects of the last boom, housebuyers were less optimistic and a great deal more wary than the Deputy

Peter Hayward, a Carlisle estate agent, said: "People are more discerning. They have learned certain lessons and buy a house because if you anybody."

don't the man behind you will." He said Cumbrian house prices were still lower today than during the housing boom. A three-bedroomed house which had been worth £55,000 m 1990 was now weigh £50,000 tar most.

anything to do with the Giwernment is another issue."
If Mr Heseltine's boom does come about it is likely to emanate from the South-east and spread ordwards as it did neara decade aeu

Mr Hayward said: "I am pos-

itive for 1997 but whether it is

There has been a marked increase in activity in the central London housing market, prompting banks and building societies to predict rises in British house prices of between 7 and 10 per cent next year. Nathouse said yesterday that house sales would merease by 15 per cent in 1997.

Estate agents in the Southeast said yesterday that the upturn was sharply focused on the upper end of the market.

Glennie Salt, of the Berkshire estate agents Drewett Neate, said that brand new properties and older "character" homes in the £2001,000 to £300,000 price range were selling well. But she warned: "Modern boxes, characterless and built to the 1960s and 1970s with standard bathrooms and kitchens, have stagnated in price."

Many estate agents also became victims of the previous boom and bust. Now they are quick to distance themselves from the 1980s image of a wheeler-dealing shark. They profess a desire for "reasonable prices" and praise the acumen of the modern housebuyer.

As Mr Heseltine reached for the Champagne to toast the "new boom", he was warned that it could be more of an election handicap than a vote-

Gordon Wighton, the Teesside area manager for Halifax property services, said: "We don't want to see a boom in the i

We love to buy records and Monsieur Aznavour loves to make them - again and again ...



Vintage performances: French singer Charles Aznavour and The Beatles - still popular after all these years



David Lister Arts News Editor

albums and singles released this year shows that the number of recordings put onto the mar-ket reached an all-time high. There are also some startling statistics, for example the artist with the most album releases in 1996 was discovered to be French crooner Charles Aznavour. He was responsible for oo fewer than 28 albums, ineluding re-releases and compi-lations.

There was a big increase in spokeo-word albums, the highest oumber of which featured various journalists interviewing the The Beatles. And the welter of releases gave plenty of scope for confusion. For instance there was little similarity betweeo Shirley Bassey Sings The Movies, a budget album of vintage recordings on the Music For Pleasure label, and Shirley Bassey Sings The Movies, a full-price album by Polygram with oew

But even this was less confusing than rock and roller Carl Perkins, who was the subject of three different compilations on different labels, all at different prices but all emitted Blue Suede

The research, by Entertainment Research & Analysis and published in Music Week magazine, shows that the oumber of albums released in 1996 was 16,148 - 26 per cent up on 1995's previous record number of 12,845. Releases of singles increased 16 per cent to 6939. There were an average of 311 albums and 133 singles released Much of the increase in

singles productioo was due to the continuing popularity of for 56.4 per coot of the year's In the albums marker, the re-

ing up as ootahly less popular on albums than singles. How-Research carried out oo ever, the huge increase in the oumber of releases by hopeful record companies is not mirrored by actual sales.

Singles and albums are, in fact, selling fewer copies than ever before. The average 1996 alhum sold 12,000 copies and the average single only 10,644

copies, both all-time lows.
The most prolific artist was
Charles Aznavour, with jazz musicians Charlie Parker and Duke Ellingtoo close hehind Frank Sinatra, who was 1995's most prolific artist with 21 re-leases, just missed the top 10 this time. He had a paltry 15 titles out during the year. The oumber of spoken-work

Artists with most album releases

Chartes Aznavour: 28 Charlle Parker: 25 Duke Ellington: 23 Billie Holliday: 21 Tangerine Dream: 20 Black Sabbath: 19 Glenn Miller: 19 Ella Fitzgerald: 19 Edith Piaf: 19 Gregory Isaacs: 17 Benny Goodman: 17 Miles Davis: 17

releases more than doubled to account for 4 per ceot of the alhums market with most still released oo cassette - the BBC in particular being notably reluctant to make the move to

The Corporation's landmark Radio 4 history of Britain, This Sceptere d Isle was spread over 20 cassettes. Readings of poetry, fiction and biographies in-creased markedly with John Le Carré topping the table with eight cassettes, all of his own material. - but still lagging behind the 13 CDs of Beatles in-

Interview discs seems to be searchers recognised 138 genres, though by far the most
popular fields were rock, with
27 per cent of releases, jazz, with
13 per cent, and daoce with 10
increasingly popular. In addition
to The Beatles there were six tities featuring The Rolling
Stones, five of Queen and three
each with Nirvana and Oasis. increasingly popular. In addition to The Beatles there were six titles featuring The Rolling Stones, five of Queen and three



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THOMSON

Skin clinics exploit desperate patients

Health Editor

A patient with a disfiguring skin condition was charged almost £1,000 by a private clinic for a small pot of cream which on analysis was found to have little or no therapeutic value.

Two leading skin-care chari-ties say that desperate patients are being mereasingly exploited by clinics in London and other major cities, which may offer patients free consultations but charge large sums for any drugs that are prescribed subse-

Chris Barrett, chief pharmacist at the Royal Hospitals' NHS Trust in London, and who has analysed skin creams on be-halt of the Viriligo Society and the National Eczema Society, said that charging large sums for creams which will have futle impact on a patient's condition was

Mr Barrett said: "As a pharmacist I am horrified by what some of these clinics are doing. Despicable is not a strong enough word for it. They put the whole of the medical profession

in disrepute."
Michael Wadsworth, chief executive of the Vitiligo Society, said: "We are aware of four or tive cases but we know there must be many more. People are too embarrassed to come forward and admit that they have been taken in. But they are desperate people in a vulnerable position.

"Many of the clinics offer free coosultations but charge exor-

bitant prices for the drugs. There is no cure for vitiligo, a disorder of skin pigmentation in which patches of skin lose their colour, and which affects up to 2 million people io Britain. Spontaneous repig-

NHS treatments using steroid creams and light therapy have _done. mixed success, which prompts some patients to seek help wherever they can.

skinned people, occurring most commonly on the face, hands, armpits and groin.

One 20-year-old man with the disease spent his savings on a 50g pot of cream from the West One Clinic in Harley therapeutic carrier for the drug.

when he realised what he had

"It was a small pot, with a hand-written label and there was no indication of the ingre-The depigmented patches dients. He showed us the receipt are particularly obvious in dark-for £950," Mr Wadsworth said. Analysis of the cream re-

vealed that it cootained tiny amounts of the steroid drug, Synalar (fluocinologe acclamide) heavily diluted in white soft paraffin, a ooo-

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WEST One CLINIC A7 HARLEY STREET, LORDOR, WI

Raising hope: How the West One Clinic in Harley Street encourages patients to part with their money

mentation occurs in about 30 Street. "He was unemployed A 225g pot of white soft paraf-per cent of cases, but available and he came in here in tears fin costs around £1 from the chemist. A tube of Synalar, a prescription-only medicine, costs the NHS less than £1.50.

"It was difficult to do a quantitative analysis because there wasn't enough active [thera-peutic] ingredient in it, Mr Barrett said.

A pharmaceutical analysis of a similar cream from another clinic suggested there was no active ingredient present at

The National Eczema Society cites another case it is investigating, in which a teenage girl with acne paid a clinic £900 for "two tiny pots" labelled Acne Cream 1 and Acne Cream 2.

"After three months she went back for more cream but didn't course. She asked her father for the mooey and he contacted us because he thought it was such a rip off," a spokesman said.

No medically qualified staff at the West Ooe Clinic in Harley Street was available to comment on the case reported by the Vitiligo Society. The medical director did not return The Independent's call, made earlier this week. A spokesman said that the vitiligo patient had paid for three month's treatment and the cream he had been given was a "preparatory"

"I have his file here in front of me. He did not return for further treatment over the three mooths," he said earlier this week. However, Mr Wadsworth said the patient had been told by the clinic that the small pot of cream was intended for use over three months, and that if he wanted further supplies after that he would have to pay



Search for baby

Northumhria police are trying to trace the mother of a newborn baby girl abandoned in a hedge in sub-zero temperature

conditions on Boxing Day.
The 6lb 14oz infant was found with her umbilical cord intact next to a house in Wansford Way, Whickham, Gates-head, by Darren Simms, 13, as he cycled home from his morning paper round on Thursday.
The baby, named Molly by staff at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Tyne and Wear, is said to

be progressing Police said they wanted to trace the mother because they believe she needs medical

The teenage mother of another oewborn haby found abandooed and blue with cold in a park two days hefore Christmas has come forward,

Essex police said yesterday.

A 15-year-old girl and a fet smale companioo visited Ilford police station, late last night following four days of appeals by

Scotland Yard The baby boy, named Joseph by ourses at Harold Wood Hospital, in Essex, where he was being treated, was discovered by a street cleaner in Goodmayes Park in Ilford. The child, who weighed six-and-a-half pounds, was suffering from hypothermia. Doctors believe he had been born less than an hour earlier.

Joseph is oow in an incubator, being watched by a team of nurses io the Harold Wood maternity ward, where his con-

dition is described as stable. "It is too early to say whether Joseph will be going back with his mother. That is a decisioo for the social services and oot the police," said a Scotland Yard spokesman yesterday.

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Labour seeks to stem cash aid for disasters

Fran Abrams Political Correspondent

High-profile disaster relief programmes are soaking up an increasing proportion of Britain's aid budget while preventive work is being cut, the latest official figures show.

woman, Clare Short, has accused ministers of using "sticking lasters" to cover the fact that the United Kingdom is failing to provide the help needed to stop crises - such as the recent one in Zaire - happening. She plans radically to change Britain's approach. If her party wins power she will launch a new Department of International Development and call for a move away from the Live Aid approach to

helping developing countries. Other policies which would be announced in a Labour White Paper sooo after the general election include pushing for United Nations sanctions to be aimed at rich people in oppressive regimes. Dictators such as General Sese Seko Mobutu of Zaire, who spends much of his time in Switzerland, that time, emergency aid has could be refused travel visas. gone op by £22m to £140m.

Foreign bank accounts could be frozen and flights to offeoding countries limited to essential aid. Labour also wants to phase

out the Aid and Trade provision under which money is sent to countries which can provide Britain with commercial contracts. Although the new figures show this has fallen over the past four years, cash is still channelled to comparatively rich countries. Indonesia, which is to be the

subject of a Public Accounts Committee inquiry into links betweeo aid and arms sales from the UK, has the fourth biggest aid budget from Britain despite having a per capita gross do-mestic product higher than much of Eastern Europe. Its Aid and Trade has trebled over four years to almost £29m.

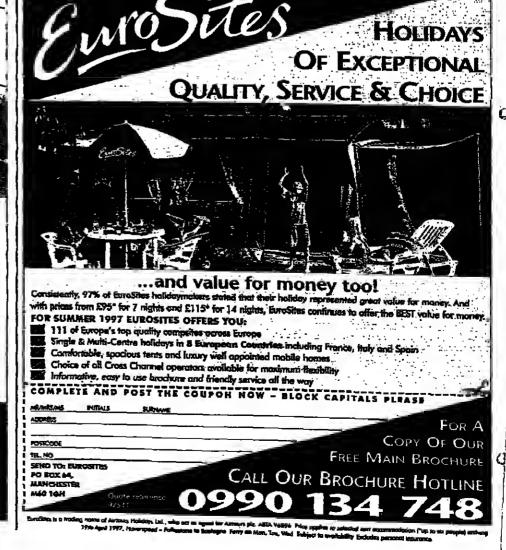
Four years ago the United Kingdom used to speed the same amount on emergeocy aid to developing countries as it did on programme aid. But figures due out in January from ministracco (ODA) show that while programme aid has dropped by £36m to £82mm over

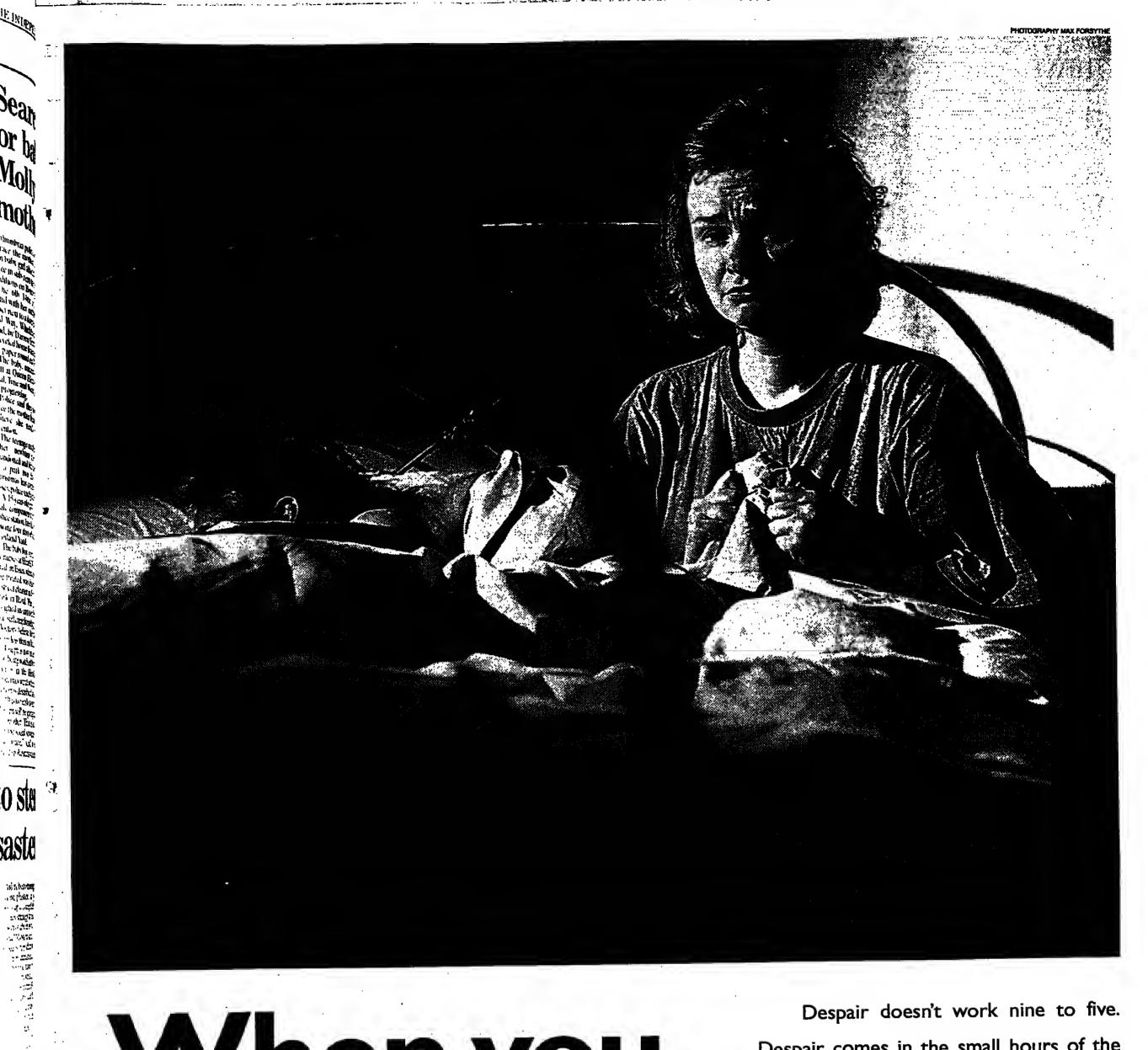
"Aid is becoming a cover, a sticking plaster, a system that covers up a complete failure to have any strategy to deal with the growth of abject poverty in the world." Ms Short said. "There is no aid, no help, then we rush in with humanitarian aid. But how

much better to have speot less oo having some strategies." The figures for the 1995-96 financial year show that Britain's aid budget has falleo to 0.28 per cent of gross national product. a little over half the 1979 figure. The UK is 15th in speeding, after Japan, Germany and Finland. Top is Denmark, with 0.96 per ceot of GNP.

A spokesman for the ODA said the past three years had beeo particularly demanding because of the conflicts io Bosnia and Rwanda.

"We doo't anticipate emergency aid becoming a bigger part of our plans at all. It is a problem, though, because long-term sustainable development isn't particularly photogenic ... For instance we do a lot of work in training economists, which isn't all that interesting but which probably matters a great deal to countries like Uganda," he said.





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David Keys Archaeology Correspondent

The buried remains nf a longlost prehistoric walled town have been disenvered by archaeologists seven miles south of Oxford.

Dating from the early first site of present-day Ahingdon was defended by two miles of 40ft-wide moats and covered around S0 acres.

The discovery is likely to cause intense interest among academics as it is only the third site of its kind and size ever found in this country. The find is easting new light on the very beginnings of urban dwelling in Britain.

archaeologist Tim Allen of the Oxford Archaenlogical Unit have so far revealed that, unlike

Excavation lays bare the home of pre-Roman sophisticates in Oxfordshire

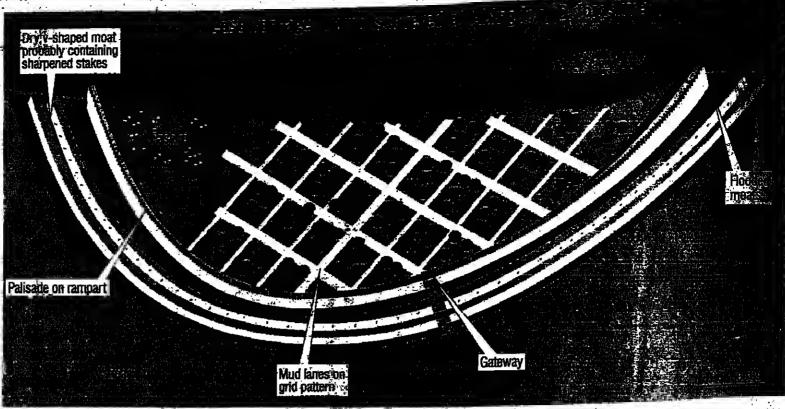
town was well planned, and was laid out in a grid pattern. This suggests influence from Roman-occupied Europe

despite the fact that the grid pattern town was huilt around 30 years before the Roman Conquest of southern Britain. The discoveries make Abingdon the oldest known continuously inhabited town in Britain.

Evidence uncarthed so far suggests that it was founded in the sixth or seventh century BC. hut underwent a massive reor-

ganisation and expansion in the early first century AD. At that stage the traditional higgledy-piggledy layout was replaced by a grid system, with rows of house compounds and iotersecting lanes, and the whole town was enclosed within a massive triple-most and ceotury AD, the town - on the most prehistoric settlements, the earthen rampart - almost certainly topped by a woodeo palisade-style town wall. Archaeologists estimate that it had a population of 1500. When southern Britain was

conquered by the Romans in 43AD. Abingdon became a major centre of native prosperity. For the first 40 years of Roman rule, Abingdon appears to have had, for an ungarrisoned native town, unusually high access to imported Roman luxury goods - notably high-quality Roman glazed pottery from France and Roman amphorae,



which were full of wine, from

cally - the town appears to have been linked to the pro-Roman Hampshire tribes of the up a ceramic manufacturing

Atrebatii and the Regni. Pottery finds in Abingdon have even revealed that craftsmen in the Regnian capital, Noviomagus Regnensium (Chichester), set

basein Abingdon. However, it that sold goods made south of is diffee possible that the town the Thames or on the Continent rice original name of which re- to tribal kingdoms located north mans a mystery — was the main, of the Thames. centre of a previously unknown. The discoveries oot only independent tribal kingdom; show that a British town has at

history, hut also hints at even greater influence from Roman Gaul a generation before the cooquest than had been

Whitehall 'censored' report on offenders

accused of censoring a report they commissioned. After all references to links between crime and unemployment were erased from a thaft version.

introductory! Quote from Batch, Minister of State for the Baroness Blatch, a Home Of Home Office, said there is fice minister in which she says a now a growing body of evidence there is growing evidence that to show that supervision and reoffenders are more likely to set- settlement is more likely to be He is the community if they are given work or training. The final version of the Home Office funded report, "National Audit of Offender Employment Policies and Practice" excludes a series of statements which were found in the draft edition.

a charitable trust but was overseen by a working group that included representatives of the Home Office, the Prison Service and the Department for Edu-cation and Employment.

It is understood government departments are keen to play down links between crime and unemployment. Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, is putting through measures in the Police Bill which are expected to result in op to 8 millioo people seeking a job having their criminal records vetted each year. The proposed Criminal Records Agency will provide three levels of checks, according to the sensitivity of the joh.

Penal reform groups have condemned the measures, saying they would make ex-offenders unemployable. So, ministers do not want to be seeo to be supporting research that suggests unemployed ex-criminals will reoffend.

The Apex Trust, an ex-offender employment organisa-tion for England and Wales, produced a draft report in July. But the final version which looks at employment training

and educational facilities for prisoners and ex-offeoders, which was produced in Sep-tember, had big chunks missing.

Paragraphs taken out of the introduction included: "In her opening address to the multicrime and unemployment were agency seminar Improving the crased from a that version. Employment Prospects of Of-The official include an fenders in 1995, Baroness introductory! Anose from Blatch, Minister of State for the successful if offenders are offered employment or train-ing." Another line in the draft version's Findings, Policy and Strategy section which was later omitted was: "The Home Office recognise that employment contributes to the successful re-

There are further examples such as: "[The Prisoo Service] considers work to he one of the principle means of reducing

reoffeoding post release."
Godfrey Allen, chief executive of the Apex Trust, refused to comment on suggestions that the report had been "knobbled". "We have been commissioned to do a piece of work. It's their report and its up to them what they do with it and when they publish it." he said.

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, said: "This change smacks of ministerial censorship.

The report shows clearly that the best way of preventing future crimes is jobs and employment. That view is clearly endorsed by the Minister in the first draft."

A Home Office spokesman said the report was commis-sioned to look at what was happening within offender employment, and that the final versioo was the responsibility of Apex. She added that the report was not connected in any way with the vetting issue.

Five months' work goes in tax

The average British employee day was 1 June. The tax hurden will have to work from 1 January to 24 May next year to pay off his or her tax hill, a report 29 April. ont today claims.

Every year, the right-wing think-tank the Adam Smith Iostitute calculates how long people "slave for the benefit of the Treasury" and comes up with what it calls "tax-freedom day". In 1996 the date was 23 May but it was a leap year and had

an extra day.

The institute's report states: "Nearly 40 per cent of our national income will be swallowed up in taxes in 1997. That means we will work nearly five whole months for the taxman before we can finally start working for ourselves."

Tax freedom day would fall oo Saturday 24 May next year, it said. That is more than a week later than the 1993 low of 15 than in 1985, when tax freedom

was a lot lighter 30 years ago -in 1965, tax freedom day fell on

However, other countries in Europe are worse off. The European Union average for tax freedom is 5 June, while people in Denmark have to work until the end of July just to pay off their taxes, the institute

The report states: "The Government is currently, and with some success, attempting to bring the public sector finances back into balance. But this is done partly through higher taxation and only partly through lower expenditure

"If the higher tax path continues to be chosen, Britain could still end up as a high-tax economy, less attractive for foreign investors and less friendly May, but considerably earlier Such a trend could only be described as deeply disturbing."





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British yachtsman in ocean rescue drama

James Cusick and Stuart Alexander

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British round-the-world yachtsman Pete Goss is to be compensated for his selfless act of heroism in rescuing a French race colleague whose boat sunk in treacherous conditions in the Southern Ocean.

Organisers of the non-stop Vendee Globe race praised the bravery of the former Royal Ma-rine and confirmed that the time he spent saving the life of Raphael Dinelli by taking a 150mile diversion will be taken into account in the final positions.

Goss, 35, an award-winning ocean yachtsman who holds the record for the smallest catamaran to cross the Atlantic was lying seventh in the single-handed global race when he put aside his dreams of victory and sailed to the rescue of Dinelli. Race director Philippe Jeantot, speaking from Paris, said: "All at headquarters salute his courage and determination."

The 28-year-old Frenchman was stranded in a liferaft that was dropped to him by a Australian air-sea rescue plane after his yacht Algimouss began to sink, 1,400 miles south-west of Perth.

In fading light on Boxing Day, Goss carried out a syslematic triangular search pat-Dinelli's boat sank, his chances of surviving would have been reearded a slim. Although modem satellite locating equipment



Dangerous waters: The area of Southern Ocean where Goss (left) rescued Dineif

mercial shipping in that area of the really fast, we were sur-the Southern Ocean. It is also prised at how quickly he got well out of helicopter range. His near to the spot where Mr rescue and said the Frenchman was in good spirits, suffering only from mild hypothermia. A well out of helicopter range. His only hope lay in a fellow com-

petitor. When not racing, Goss lives at St Germans, Cornwall, with his wife Tracey and their three children. He sold his house and ran up dehts of more than £80,000 to fulfil a 10-year ambition to take part in the Vendee race. His 50ft sloop, Aqua Quo-rum, is the smallest in the field. Goss was the first to respond

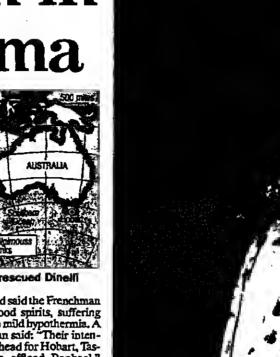
raft drifting mid-ocean in conditions close to freezing point al 11.40pm (GMT) on Thursday. Race organiser, Laurie lem to locate the raft. When Mr Gallizzi, said: "Pete weot straight away in the direction of Raphael when he heard what. had happened. Every hour from then on he sent us a fax to say

Dineth was."

fax from the British yacht confirmed the rescue. "I have just had the best Christmas present ever. Raphael is on board. He is very cold and happy. I've just given him a cup of tea." It is understood that the Frenchman suffered only minor injuries, including a knock to his head. When his vessel capsized, winds in the area were thought to have

been gusting at up to 75mph.
On both occasions that the Vendee race has been held, French boats have triumphed, and this time was expected to be no exception. Before the crews set off, however, Goss said: "The French don't own single-handed sailing. We're going to take them on and win.

The Australian Maritime



was in good spirits, suffering only from mild hypothermia. A spokesman said: Their inten-A message sent on satellite tion is to head for Hobart. Tasmania, to offload Raphael." This will probably be done by either by a specialist helicopter or rescue craft transfer.

During the race the two men are understood to have developed a developed a close bond. Earlier in the race, the Frenchman helped Goss by keeping in radio contact for several days after his satellite fax broke down.

Mr Goss, an ocean racing professional, finished second in his class in this year's singlehanded transatlantic race and is currently seventh out of the 10 competitors remaining from the original field of 14 yachts which left the French port of Les Sables d'Olonne on 3 November. They are due back in Febmary or March after their



Lifeline: Goss (above) taking Dinelli on board after locating his raft. Top left: The

Palace attacks Diana advert

Marianne Macdonald Media Correspondent

Princess of Wales wearing leather and carrying a when coupled with an exhortation to have "a spanking New Year" -has elicited a protest from the

head of the Queen's household. The Palace issued the complaint to the Advertising Standards Authority on behalf of the Lord Chamberlain, the Earl of Airlie, after seeing the composite photograph to promote the satirical magazine, Insuler.

The move may surprise these who thought the Princess was no longer part of the Royal Family, but a Palace spokesman said the fact that the Prince and Princess of Wales were divorced made no difference.

"It is against the Lord Chant bertain's rules and guidelines, which are applicable to all advertisers, to use images of the Royal Family without permission for commercial purposes." he said.

"The Princess of Wales remains a member of the Reyal Family, as the announcement of the divorce arrangements made clear, as the former wife of the heir to the throne and the mother of the Princes,"

The advertisement appeared in London's Evening Standard on December 17. It showed the Princess, now holidaying in the Caribbean, wearing a black leather top and carrying a whip. Headlined Royal gift shock". a speech bubble from Diann's mouth said: "I thought I said Insider was started by John

Bird, founder of The Big Issue, the magazine to help the home-less, Tony Elliott, founder of list-ings magazine, *Time Out*, and journalist Tim Satehell, who is both editor and publisher. Mr Satchell said: "It is a

beautiful, witty photograph of a beautiful, witty woman. We have out yet had the full text of the complaint, but there was no intention to mislead.

"We are a magazine of wit and the Princess is well-known

for her sense of humour." The Princess's office is understood to have been informed about the matter before she left

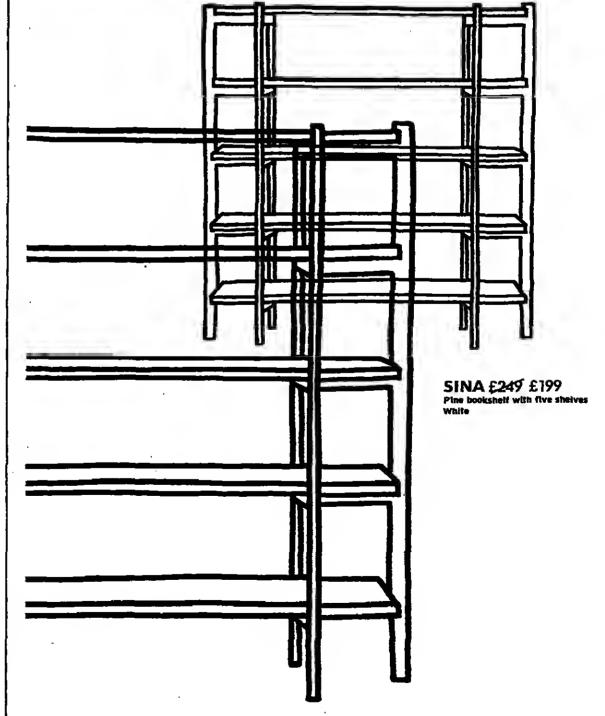


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Swan lake gives new dimension to Capability's vision

Stephen Goodwin Heritage Correspondent

Walkers who work off the turkey and pudding at Wimpole, near Cambridge, this Christmas will find the North Park returned to a design close to that left by "Capability" Brown more than 200 years ago.

Brown was one of a series of landscape architects to leave his mark on the home of the Earls of Hardwicke which was bequeathed in the National Trust by Elsie Bambridge. daughter of Rudyard Kipling.

The Trust has just completed a £120,000 restoration project, which involved dredging two lakes created by Brown io the 1761s, tree planting. improvements to public access and the return of an arable field

The two lakes, at the ceotre of 350 acres of parkland that attract thousands of walkers each year, are the most dramatic aspect of the transformation. Where for a lifetime there have been trees, thickets and reed beds, there is now open water. Little interest was shown in

the lakes after a dam on the lower one was breached 60 years ago. Scrub took hold. The lower lake as good as disappeared - "an impenetrable jungle beneath full-grown willows", according to Graham Damant, the Wimpnle property manager. The upper one became heavily silted up and covered in reeds.

Mud down to a depth of seven feet was dredged from the

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lower one. Spread hillside, it bas raised the ground

level by an average of two feet. Mr Damant has watched teal, tufted duck, mute swans and other birds return to the lakes. A kingfisher darts from the overhanging branches. The opper lake has been stocked with small carp. It was a fish pond in the 1600s before Brown extended it.

Wimpole, which also has a working farm with rare breeds of sheep, cattle and pigs, does not draw on the Trust's central funds. Money for the restoration project came from a variety of sources, including a Countryside Commission grant, donations and the proceeds of an on-going second-hand book sale at the hall.

The last of the great landscape designers to work at Wimpole was Humphry Repton He developed Brown's informal landscape and in his Red Book of 1801 contrasted the woodland and hillsides of the estate with the flat comfields of much of the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdoo. It was, he wrote, "like a flower in the desert, beautiful in itself, but more beautiful by its

Not all of Reptoo's vision will feature in the restoration. Lying in a fold, the lakes are hiddeo from the view of the hall. The great designer proposed a boat so that its mast would be seen by the cart's guests and indicate the presence of water. But for the Trust's arbiters of taste, a boat was thought inappropriate.



Former glory: The upper lake at Wimpole, which has been restored to a body of open water after decades as

insisted that random pat-down

searches of all visitors had been

"Probation officers spend a lot

Three recent cases in partic-

ular have prompted the union to

seek advice on whether officers

have been subjected to assault

or grossly unreasonable treat-

ment. In one incident at Bel-

marsh, a female prisoo officer

put her fingers inside a female probation officer's bra and leg-

gings, observed by a group of male solicitors and a female so-

licitor who were not searched.

same prison, a male prisoo of-

ficer approached a female pro-

batioo officer with a hand-held

electronic metal-detecting wand, but the woman was in-

stead subjected without warn-

ing to a search under ber

ing to a search under ber clothing by a female prison of-ficer. Napo views both inci-dents as assaults.

In the third case, at Doncaster prison, the searching officer in-sisted on touching a female probation officer's ileostomy bag, in front of onlookers, ask-

ing what she had in her pockets.

and immigration officers are far

more likely to be "waved through" by jail security. Mr Fletcher said dozens of officers

bad walked out of prisons in protest and judges were now ex-

pressing concern because pre-sentence court reports were

reported being sniffed by drugs

dogs, while prisoo authorities have even considered asking women not to wear underwired

bras because they set off alarms.

oot being completed. In other cases officers have

Napo believes that police

Io another search at the

is security.



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Union acts over jail searches of visitors

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor

The Prison Service could face legal action in the wake of a introduced in response to the Woodcock report into the jail flood of complaints from proescape from Whitemoor, Cambation officers subjected to inbridgeshire, in September 1994. trusive physical searches when more time going in and ont of prisons," the spokesman said. "Our outstanding consideravisiting jails on official duties. The National Association of

Probation Officers (Napo), the lawyers over whether some of the searches amount to assault. "Rub-down" searches -

duced last autumn. By this moath more than 60 officers,

the majority women, had for-mally complained to the prison authorities.

The instructions at Belmarsh

high category prison, in south-

east Loodon, says that the

searches of probatioo staff are

"designed to give a thorough ex-

amination to satisfy the searcher that no item is concealed in their

clothing." There is no evidence,

bowever, of probatioo staff being involved in illegal activity.

A parliameotary answer in 1989 disclosed that 10 prison officers and other staff members

had been interviewed in con-

nection with drug trafficking in prisons during the previous decade. While the number of ar-

rests for drug smuggling by vis-itors has rocketed to 1,289 in

1995, the Prisoo Service has

stopped differentiating between domestic and professional vis-

its when compiling its statistics.
Harry Fletcher, Napo's as-

sistant general secretary, said:
"We suspect that the real reason for the searches is connected
with the Prison Service's attitude

to probation officers. At one jail

a female officer was told that

probation was seen as the friend

of the prisoner and therefore likely to take in contraband."

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£1bn diet industry faces over-the-counter ban A new clampdown on the slim- tional wellbeing and could also

carty in the New Year.

MP for Halifax, is poised to re-iotroduce a Bill which would make all diet and weight-loss pills and potions available oo prescription only.

"People are in danger of poisoning themseives by this constant obsession to lose weight and be thin," Mrs Mahon said. She added that unsupervised dieting could undermine a

ming industry is to be considered by the House of Commons

lead to serious eating disorders and other problems. "Marilyn Monroe was the role model for Alice Mahon, the Labour my generation," she said. "She was a size 16 and she still is thought of as a goddess."

Mrs Mahon's original Bill was given a second reading in the Commons but was destroyed through lack of the in Park ment. "Now it is all set to go again," she said.

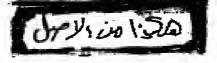
The booming British diet industry covers slimming clubs. magazines and books, is said to woman's physical and emo- be worth more than £1bn.

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THE PLANTAGE

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Job stress worse among low-paid

Barrie Clement Labour Editor

Job insecurity is just as stressful as unemployment, and contrary to the popular view has hit the working class far hard-er than professionals, according to a Cambridge University

Not only have those at the bottom of the pile been forced to put up with a widening pay gap, they have also suffered the "double blow" of extreme anxiety over their, employment

prospects.

In a study to be published in the new year, Brendan Burchell of the Cambridge Faculty of Social and Political Sciences warns of the dangerous effects of this "polarisation" of the labour market on society. He bas calculated that manual workers are 60 per cent more likely to move into insecure jobs than professionals.

The paper, "The Unequal Distribution of Job Insecurity", also points out that employment insecurity causes severe psy-chological problems, marital breakdowns and reduces life ex-

pectancy.

Mr Burchell, whose research is to be published in the *International Review of Applied Economics*, contends that there is no evidence to support the New Right's view that insecutive beautiful process. rity boosts workers' motiva-tion. While a degree of concern about one's future may help productivity, real job insecurity has a negative impact on the output of most people, Mr Burchell argues.

And employees rarely "get used" to such stress. The effects become cumulatively worse as the years wear on. Insecurity feeds on itself, so that those who have experienced a period of unemployment enter a down.

· N. 6%

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employers towards the jobless. The paper points to a "stark break" between the relatively se-

cure Sixties and Seventies and the labour market after 1979. In the Eighties there was a far higher risk of moving from a secure to an insecure employment. That was partly due to a deep recession which saw un-employment rise to levels more than three times as bigh as anything that had been experienced since the war.

Mr Burchell contends some government, which introduced legislation to make it easier for employers to dismiss their

The study reports the exis-tence of "Survivor Syndrome" among those left after redundancies. Among the survivors, researchers have found decreased motivation, morale, confidence and loyalty, and in-creased stress, anger and bit-

Peter Hain, Labour's employment spokesman, said the research proved his party's argument that deregulation of the market was a dangerous policy.
"It doesn't produce greater efficiency and it has hred job in-security which is not only bad for health, it also makes people less efficient and less likely to have the confidence to innovate," he said.

He continued: "It is clear there was a sea change in 1979 when the Conservatives came to power. Job insecurity is partly the result of global competition,

unemployment enter a down-ward spiral, finding it more dif-particularly those at the bottom



of the insecurity was the re-sponsibility of the Conservative

Max the four-footed surfer is lost

One of Britain's biggest canno stars is missing. Max the surfing dog vanished from outside a supermarket in west Wales while his owner Pete Bounds was inside buying his pet's Christmas dinner, writes Richard Smith, The four-year-old mongrel, who won

the Pro Dog charity's Pet of the Year award, rose to fame last summer through his devotion to Mr Bounds, 47, Britain's former surfing team captain. Every time his owner went out surling, Max whimpered on the beach, So Mr Bounds taught Max to surf with him -

giving him his own wet suit and board. But when Mr Bounds went into Haverfortwest to buy Max a steak on Christmas I ce the dog was ned to railings outside. "I was only in the supermarket for a couple of minutes but when I came back Max had gone, Mr Bounds said. He is convinced the dog was stolen. "I'm absolutely shattered ... I miss him terribly." Mr Bounds has spent all Christmas scarebing for Max, and has put up 200

posters offering a COO teward for his safe teturn. Dyfed Powys police asked Photograph: Rob Stratton contact Haverfordwest police station.

ficult to establish themselves in of the pile – is poor, nasty, permanent jobs, partly through hrutish and short. £30m threat looms over good colleges

Lucy Ward Education Correspondent

A steep three-year rise in the number of students attending further-education colleges could be slowed or even halted withdraw money for expansion.

The quango in charge of college funding is at loggerheads with officials from the Depart-ment for Education and Employment amid fears that the move could lose the sector up to £30m. College principals claim that axing extra funds for growth will place further strain on a sector already facing severe financial difficulties after meeting tough Government-set

expansion targets.

They warn that removing money intended as an incentive for colleges to create new demand for training, from industry and the public, will damage efforts to help Britain reach am-

The pot of money under threat is available to successful colleges which fulfil their student recruitment goals hut which want to expand further. tens of millions of pounds each year. The sector was inspired Introduced three years ago and worth tens of millions annually, the pot has so far effectively been an open cheque underbeen an open cheque under-written by the Treasury.

However, a sharp increase in the number of claims on the fund in the past financial caused alarm among ministers, prompting threats to reduce the money available or remove it

If the pot is abolished, the colleges quango, the Further Education Funding Council (FEFC), could be told to reallocate its existing funds to help the sector meet continuing tough growth targets. However, the FEFC insisted that this year's budget settlement for further education did no more than allow the sector to stand still.

Colleges bad been warned by the FEFC that the growth fund could eventually be reviewed,

it would disappear before 1998-1999. Under proposals now being considered, it could be withdrawn from this April.

Further-education colleges, which currently educate more than 3 million full-time and following Treasury threats to part-time students, bave increased their rolls by 6 per cent a year since 1993, when they became independent of local-authority control.

But the strain of expanding, while also making 20 per cent efficiency gains, is beginning to show, with almost 300 colleges slipping into the red last year. The proportion of colleges on a "sick list", indicating real fi-nancial difficulty, rose to around one in eight.

A spokeswoman for the Department for Education and Employment confirmed that discussions were going on with the FEFC, but said the Government envisaged "continuing

growth in the sector". hitious education and training targets set for the millennium.

Roger Ward, chief executive of the Association of Colleges, called any move to reduce or abolish the fund a "disaster", claiming it could lose colleges by the Government to expand on the understanding this mon-

the contract and it is inconceivable that ministers should renege on theirs."

■ A college principal and maryear is understood to have keting director who were sacked after reports that they were running a pub while on sick leave are considering challenging their dismissal at a tribunal.

Neil Preston, the £90,000-ayear chief executive of Stoke-on-Trent College, and the assistant director Helen Chandler, were sacked without notice on Christmas Eve following an investigation by a special com-mittee of governors. They could win a cash settlement if the procedures used to dismiss them are found to be unfair.

The college is to sack 200 staff after uncovering a £8m shortfall in its funds caused by failbut there was no suggestion that ing to hit its recruitment targets.

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Gonzalez boosts Serb opposition

Kurt Schork

Beigrade - Anti-government demonstrators and rint police clashed in the Serbian capital Belgrade yesterday after Ser-bian opposition claims that it was robbed of recent local elec-

tion victories gained important international backing. Witnesses said police, some in plain clothes, used batons in street fights with the protesters. who jeered as they left the demonstration past cordons of riot police. At least one person was heaten unconscinus, and a man who said he was walking home from a medical confer-ence received an open headwound, evewitnesses said.

A mother and her 12-year-old daughter were slightly injured. and two fnreign televisinn crews had their cameras smashed. A reporter from the independent Radio Index said:

Poll observers' verdict lifts spirits after police block demonstrations

"It seems riot police are intervening in response to jeering. Nn other provocation took

The former Spanish prime minister, Felipe Gonzalez, representing the Organisation for Cooperation and Security in Europe (OSCE), confirmed op-position victories over Slobodan Milosevic and his ruling Socialist party (SPS) in Belgrade and 14 other towns. Soon after Mr Gonzalez an-

nounced his verdict in Geneva, the news spread in Belgrade and supporters of the opposition Zajednn (Together) coalition who were participating in the 38th day of protest marches.

The crowd of some 80,000 danced and cheered Mr Gonzalez's report, which added weight to mounting interna-tional demands that President

Milosevic respect democracy.
Mr Gonzalez, who headed an
OSCE mission to Belgrade this month, called on the 53-nation grouping to issue an "urgent ap-peal" to the authorities and po-litical forces in Yugoslavia to "comply with the will expressed at the polls by the citizens". He said the authorities should accept opposition victories in 22 disputed municipalities, in-

cluding nine in Belgrade.

Opposition leaders were sceptical that Mr Milosevic would respond to the Gonzalez report. "We do not expect him to accept the findings of this commission. We expect further escalation and aggravation of this political crisis," said Zoran Djindjic, leader of the oppositinn Democratic Party.



Defiant: Students barred by riot police from protesting in the centre of Belgrade Imitate prisoners

The official Tanjug news agency reported that Mr Gonzalez confirmed the SPS and its allies won a majority of the votes but did not refer tn his endorsement of Zajedno victories.

Weeks of processions through the centre of Belgrade ended on Thursday when riot police cleared the streets and forced demonstrators back into a pedestrian square.

Despite international warnings to allow the marches to continue, the authorities also curtailed yesterday's march by the opposition coalition. The Yagoslav Foreign Min-

ister Milan Milutinovic said the OSCE had delivered a "bal-anced" report on the elections, but had confused some facts when it visited Belgrade.

important feature of the report was that it called for dialogue "within the framework of the system" and "discussion between the authorities and the

Mr Milutinovic said the most opposition in parliament. Top German

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weekly was a Nazi haven

Imre Karacs

Germany's leading news week-ly, founded by British occupation forces after the war in an effort in foster liberal values, saw the world through browntinted spectacles in its early years, and operated as an advice centre for Nazis on the run.

To mark Spiegel's 50th anniversary next week, the Berlin newspaper Tageszeitung published documents yesterday listing prominent Nazis whn held for positions in the 1950s. The international department was headed by a former SS of-ficer who helped plan the inva-sion of Britain; the foreign editor, another SS man, was a top agent in occupied Norway.

The Berlin correspondent was in his previous incarnation a Nazi official in charge of the foreign press corps. Spiegel's Latin America correspondent, Wilfred von Oven, also had excellent contacts among the burgeoning German diaspora on

chief adjutant to Goebbels. The magazine's SS contingent knew each other before the war and had first met in Königsberg, formerly East Prussia, while developing the theology of "Scientific National Social-ism". One of them, Horst Mahnke, was charged at the Nuremberg war-crimes trials with the murder of 38 Jewish in-

tellectuals in Russia in 1941. During the war he was in the group that developed Operation Sealion, the proposed invasion of Britain. His job was to draw up lists of British Jews, MPs and nther "undesirables". Had Hitler invaded, Mahnke was the man marked out to implement

Britain's "purification". In 1952 he joined Spiegel as international editur, and re-mained on staff until 1959, when he switched in another magazine. He retired as chief business manager of the Asso-ciation of German Magazine Publishers, and died in 1985 a thoroughly respected man. His SS chum Georg Wolff,

who spent the war in Norway, retired from Spiegel in the 1970s after a glittering career and died last summer.

Long after the war, he con-tinued to hold curiously familiar views, as he betrayed in an essay about Africa: "The Negro is intelligent, skilful and eager to learn, but he is lazy, Wolff said in a scholarly journal. Karl Friedrich Grosse, the

Berlin correspondent, and von Oven in Latin America also clung on to their respectability, despite attempts to expose their pasts. As senior figures in Germany's most powerful media or-gan, Spiceel's Nazis were well-placed to deflect public cam-paigns against relics of the Third Reich. The network looked after its own, frequent-



ly springing to the defence of any member of the fraternity under attack.

The boys from Königsberg "letter-box" for the Nazi élite, littering the pages with coded messages. Spiegel functioned, according to Tageszeitung, as a "beacon in the democratic state" beleine between the letter of the litter of the litte

state", helping Nazis in find their bearings in the new world. They did their job well. The Nazis became democrats, and Spiegel, the fearless, somewhat pompous, champinn of liberal principles, remains the most in-fluential magazine foday, selling I million copies a week.

Church suicide ended tragic life

Imre Karacs

The secrets of the woman who blew herself up on Christmas Eve during a church service in Frankfurt, Germany, were pieced together yesterday by the police, shedding light on the unbearable pain that led to the tragedy. It now seems certain that she lit berself as a human torch in memory of her son who had leapt in front of a train at the age of 18.

The son's suicide in November 1989, at a spot near the church where his mother paid the ultimate tribute, had unhinged her mind. She received psychiatric help from time to time, but never got over his death. Last year came the final blow: the emotional strain of his death destroyed her marriage, and she was declared unfit to care for the couple's other child, a nine-year-old girl

A search of her flat yielded no clues, only testimonies from neighbours that she was reclusive, weighed down by sorrow. Out of respect for the family, police refused to name her, though one newspaper yester-day published her first name and the initial of her surname.

She must have been planning her exit for a long time. The means of self-destruction, two Yilgos and hand groundes containing 100 grammes of TNT each, could not have been bought, in the words of the police, "in a store".

Misfortune followed her to the very end. Investigators are now certain that she intended to kill only herself, and was oblivious to the grenades' lethal force. "She held the grenades on her lap and probably wanted to direct the explosion only against her own body," said a

police spokesman. Instead, she brought grief to families she never knew. Two sisters, aged 59 and 61, were killed in the blast and 13 people were injured, including a girl of 12 who will never fully recover.

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France quits watch over northern Iraq

Mary Dejevsky Paris Christopher Bellamy Defence Correspondent Rupert Cornwell

France is pulling out of allied surveillance operations over northern Iraq following what it says is a change in the brief. A foreign ministry statement in Paris yesterday said the decision had been taken because the "humanitarian aspect original-ly envisaged" for the mission ad been dropped.

"Operation Provide Comfort" will be communed jointly by the other participants, the Unit-ed States, Turkey and Britain. It was started in 1991 after the end of the Gulf War with the jnint aim of protecting the Kurds of northern fraq and ensuring that Iraq observed the terms of the cease-fire. Its mandate expires on 31 December, after which France

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will no longer be involved. The Turkish parliament met on Christmas Day to consider whether it should continue in the light of changed circum-stances. These include Saddam Hussein's attack on Arbil, which forced the withdrawal nf some nf the multinational ground forces in northern Iraq, and

Mary Dejevsky Paris

Local authorities across France

were ordered yesterday to pro-

vide more help for people sleeping rough after five people died

period. The instruction came from the minister for emergency

Emmanuelli; in response to

mounting public indignation that people could die in such cir-

cumstances in Nineties France. Four of the five dead were

homeless people in their fifties and sixties. Two died in central

Paris, one in the doorway of an

apartment block being refur-

bished. A third was found dead

in a park in the centre of Brest,

while the fourth, a woman, was

found close to the station in the western town of Treport. The fifth was a pensioner who lived in a caravan in the Paris region.

Much of France has been in

the grip of icy weathers since Christmas Eve, when show -

and torrential rain and bail in

the south - disrupted holiday

travel arrangements for thon-

sands. Even in Paris, temper-

atures have not ventured above zero for three days, and the

grees colder than average for

week at least.

Saddam's side.

While allowing Provide Comfort to continue from its base at Incirlik, the Turks still refuse British aid agencies access to northern Iraq. They have also discontinued the provision for ground reconnaissance. French officials had argued that without this provision, the operation would be purely military and as such France would be unlikely

to approve it. France's concern to improve its diplomatic and commercial relations with Iraq is believed to lie at the heart of its decision. Paris was recently instrumental in persuading Baghdad to meet UN conditions for recommencing oil exports.

Heavy over-spending on its overseas military budget, which includes participation in the expensive peace-keeping op-eration in Bosnia, may be another factor. Air force training flights were recently suspended because the annual fuel budget had been exhausted. France is retrenching its military presence around the world because its forces are over-stretched and it must pay for the costly transition in an all-professional military on the British model to which President Chirac has

Paris and other French cities already have extensive emergency arrangements for home-

less people and others sleeping

rough in winter. As well as

hostels, a number of central

Paris underground stations are

and hundreds of charity soup

kitchens, known as restaurants

December to mid-March for

workers say that there has been a sharp increase in those want-

ing to use the soup kitchens and

many borderline cases bave

had to be turned away. As in

Britain, additional events are or

ganised over Christmas and

New Year - on Christmas Eve,

1,500 of the Paris homeless

were entertained to Christmas dinner on five Seine cruise boats, while another 1,000 are

This year, however, charity

those of limited means.

Help ordered for

needy as French

freeze kills five

from cold over the Christmas kept open through the night

bumanitarian action, Xavier du coeur, are open from mid-

of these factions went over to marking a split in the six-andover command arrangements in a-half-year-old Gulf War coalition. Although the operation is nominally humanitarian, it has clearly become a surveillance mission enabling the Gulf War allies to hit Saddam Hussein any time he moves.

The British Foreign Office yesterday said it "noted the French position" but that the air surveillance operation contin-ued to do useful work and should continue. In practice, France, like Britain, provides only a small ar force – six planes - as its contribution to the operation, which is overwhelmingly American. France's contribution to the operation over southern Iraq, south nf 33rd parallel, remains nnaf-

Although the French Foreign Ministry said France continued to enjoy "excellent" relations with Washington, France and

over command arrangements in Nato's Southern Command, based in Naples. The French said a "European" - probably a Frenchman - should have command. Senior US military sources said they would be happy as long as the French put the resources into the Mediterranean to justify that, which

there is no sign they will ever do. France's decision to pull out of Operation Provide Comfort has annoyed and embarrassed the Clinton administration. The dispute adds to a list of differences between the two al-

lies, ranging from the Middle
East to the handling of the
Zaire refugee crisis, the US-led
nusting of Boutros BoutrosGhali as UN Secretary General and what Washington insists was a calculated personal snub by France to the outgoing Sec-return of State, Warren retary of State, Christopher.



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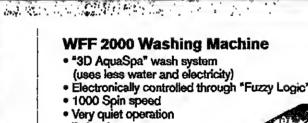


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to be given a new year dinner in the precincts of the vast science centre in the north-east of Conscious, no doubt of the poor standing of the govern-ment, several ministers presided at charitable Christmas dinners in the towns and districts

cold spell is forecast to conmayor (and invited the televitinue at least into early next Yet in Paris yesterday, there was space to spare in emergency accommodation for the home-The current temperatures, minus 8C in Paris yesterday, and minus 14-15C in eastern and central France, are up to 10 deless. One middle-aged man said he was nnt going anywhere near a hostel because he would have to give up his dog.



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significant shorts

Peru hostages South Korean see no end to workers defy their ordeal police threats Despite threats of a police crackdown, 370,000 striking

More than 100 bostages completed 10 days in the besieged Japanese embassy in Lima yesterday with no workers vowed to continue South Korea's largest union protest. Workers shut solution in sight. Guerrillas hundreds of plants over their demand that the government retract a bill making lay-offs easier, and the strikes of the Tupac Amaru group said they had another unit ready to hit other targets if President Alberto Fujimori threatened to inflict major tries force to free the damage on Sonth Korea's economy. Thousands of riot capturs. He declared an emergency in the capital. police with tear-gas guarded the entrances of the apparently to make it easier to arrest suspected guerrillas National Assembly a few blocks away. AP - Seoul nr sympathisers. Phil Davison

Asylum bid Genocide denied trial opens

The Foreign Office denied eight protesters escorted by Rwanda's first genocide trial opened, with the accused Malaysian police from the British High Commission in facing the death penalty if convicted of slaughtering Kuala Lumpur on Christmas
Day had requested asylum.
The demonstraturs, from
Indonesia's troubled Aceh 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus in 1994. An ex-medical assistant, Deo Bizmana, and Egide province, are now in Gatanazi, a former detention, according to their administrator, are charged lawyer, and face expulsion to with organising the killing of 75 per cent of the country's Raymond Whitaker Tintsis. Reuter – Nairobi

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Guatemalan guerrillas sign up for peace after 36-year war

Phil Davison Latin America Correspondent

A war that began the year John F Kennedy was elected, and Harold MacMillan was heralding "the winds of change", will finally end tomorrow when Guatemala's government and guerrillas sign a hard-won peace treaty. In 36 years of Latin America's longest guerrilla war, 100,000 people died, 40,000 more "disap-peared" from military detention and more than a million fled their homes.

At least 11 Latin American heads of state, possibly including Cuba's Field Cutro will write resident Alvaro Arzu and four guerrilla com-manders sign the so-called Agreement for a Firm and Lasting Peace in the

National Palace in Guatemala City. Although the guerrillas of the so-called Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) are still armed, they will gather in eight designated camps within the next few weeks to hand in their weapons to international peace monitors.

Most plan to stay with the URNG when it becomes a political move-

chapters of a peace treaty which took five years to reach. They will thus follow in the footsteps of their San-dinista and FMLN neighbours in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Although the peace process began five years ago, its speedy conclusion was largely due to an atmosphere of trust created by Mr Arzu, n 51-yearold former travel agent of part-Russian extraction, after he took over in January. The last and most con-troversial accord was completed only last week when Guatemala's Congress approved the Law of National Reconciliation - a sweeping military officers and anti-guerrilla village militiamen from prosecution for

massacres, kidnoppings or torture. The law infuriated local and international human-rights groups who note that, while the guerrillas were often brutal with soldiers or collaborators, it was the military and the militias who were responsible for the majority of the 36-year toll of torture, death and disappearances, mostly of civilians. It will, for example, grant impunity to the officers who carried ment, as envisaged in one of the 11 out a "scorched-earth" policy against



End of an era: Children in Guatemala City join in the chanting of URNG guerrilla slogans, in advance of the peace treaty

alleged guerrilla sympathisers in the Guatemalan highlands, at the height of the war in the Eighties. Using tech-niques learnt from United States experience against supposed pro-Viet-Cong villages in Vietnam, the

units. Also apparently exempt from punishment will be military officers who ordered or carried out the socalled Xaman massacre little over a year ago. An army platoon opened fire on 200 unarmed men, women and

policy involved burning down entire villages suspected of collaborating with, or even of feeding guerrilla

children, killing 11 and wounding 30.

The seeds of the 36-year war were sown in 1954 when the CIA

helped overthrow the leftist President Jacobo Arbenz, a coup which led to three decades of military or militarycootrolled governments. Marxist guerrilla groups were formed, merg-ing into the umbrella URNG, and encouraged by Castro's 1959 revo-lution to launch their first attacks.

In the early Eighties, the govern-

ment launched the "scorched earth" policy which sent hundreds of thou-sands fleeing through jungle to Mex-ico. Thousands are still there.

The official terrorism campaign worked. The guerrillas lost support and were reduced to blowing up bridges and pylons, as well as extort-

was effectively a protection tacket that ensured the guerrillas survival.

Many Guatemalans fear that some guerrillas will remain outside the law – as some ex-Contra and ex-Sandmista fighters have done in Nicaragua – believing they can live better through extortion than through promised state assistance.

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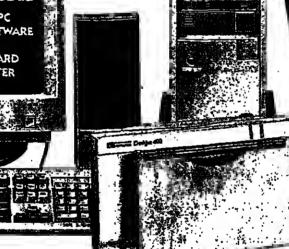
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Russia and China agree troop cuts

After seven years of talks, nvolving 22 meetings, China, Russia and three other former Soviet republics have finally eached agreement on reducing military forces along their borders. The troop-reduction pact is likely to be signed in April when China's President, Jiang Moscow:

Yesterday's agreement was negotiated in Peking but coincided with a meeting in Moscow between the Chinese Prime Minister, Li Peng, and the Russian President, Boris Yeltsin, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan will be the other nations signatory to the agree-

No details were available yesterday on the number of troops involved. China and the former Soviet republics share a border of more than 2,500 miles which during the 1960s saw clashes between the world's two biggest Communist powers. Most of the disputes on border demarcation were settled five years ago, but the issue of troop reduction has proved more

In April, during a visit by Mr Yeltsin to Peking, the five na-tions signed a confidence-building treaty under which they must inform each other about military manoeuvres near the border, and in which they

promise not to attack each other. Agreement was also reached to set up a hotline between Peking and Moscow. Sino-Russian ties are at their most cordial for decades. Both

sides want to see expanded trade and economic links, including Russian arms sales to China. Mr Li went on to meet the Russian Prime Minister Victor Chernomyrdin and the two leaders signed a number of deals, ranging from the supply of Russian warplanes and building a nuclear power station in China to an accord between the

two countries' central banks. Both Moscow and Peking also see each other as a diplomatic ballast to counterbalance each country's bilateral relations with the United States.

For Mr Yeltsin, yesterday provided the first opportunity since recovery from his heart bypass operation to resume meetings with foreign leaders. Television showed the Russian leader looking reasonably fit and greeting Mr Li warmly.
"I am very pleased with the course of events," a thinner but

appareotly healthier Mr Yeltsin said in brief remarks hroadcast on television. Mr Li and Mr Chernomyrdin agreed to meet each other twice a year to monitor progress on build-ing up trade and diplomatic re-

"We laid a good foundation for the next century and the next millennium," Interfax news agency quoted Mr Cher-nomyrdin as saying.

Dictator Stalin was softie and cry-baby

Moscow (AP) — After 60 years as a Kremlin maid, Polina Maliokina has issued her verdict on its best-known inhabitants. The dictator Josef Stalin was

"kind" man often ready to break into tears. His feared security chief, Lavrenty Beria, was "weird". "He tore all the papers on his desk into small pieces and tossed them around his office," she said. And the current President.

Boris Yeltsin, sometimes sneaks

off to a church in the Kremlin's

grounds, she said in an interview published yesterday in the daiy Komsomolskaya Pravda. "I've heard he secretly visits the church and is praying qui-

etly so that [Communist leader Gennady] Zyuganov doesn't see him," she said. "Can you rule Russia without God?"

Ms Malinkina, who is in her eighties and still works at the

Kremlin, said she is so wellknown that only she and Mr Yeltsin are not asked to show identification when entering

the building. She joined the Kremin staff in the winter of 1937 at the height of Stalin's purges, which claimed countless lives, hut said she never feared him. "He was a very short man and so kind too," she said. "He had a very tender look and his eves were often full of tears. He had even a right full of tears. He had such a pity for simple people." Ms Malinkina is a re-ligious woman, and said the only time Stalin offended her was when he ordered a church bell to be thrown off a Kremlin bell

For her, all Kremlin dwellers fall into two categories: those who wipe their feet at the door and those who don't. Mr Yeltsin falls into the first, along with Stalin and former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

Ms Malinkina, nicknamed "Baba Polya", said that her only dream, unfulfilled after 60 years, was to get a telephone in her apartment. "What if they need me urgently at the Krem-

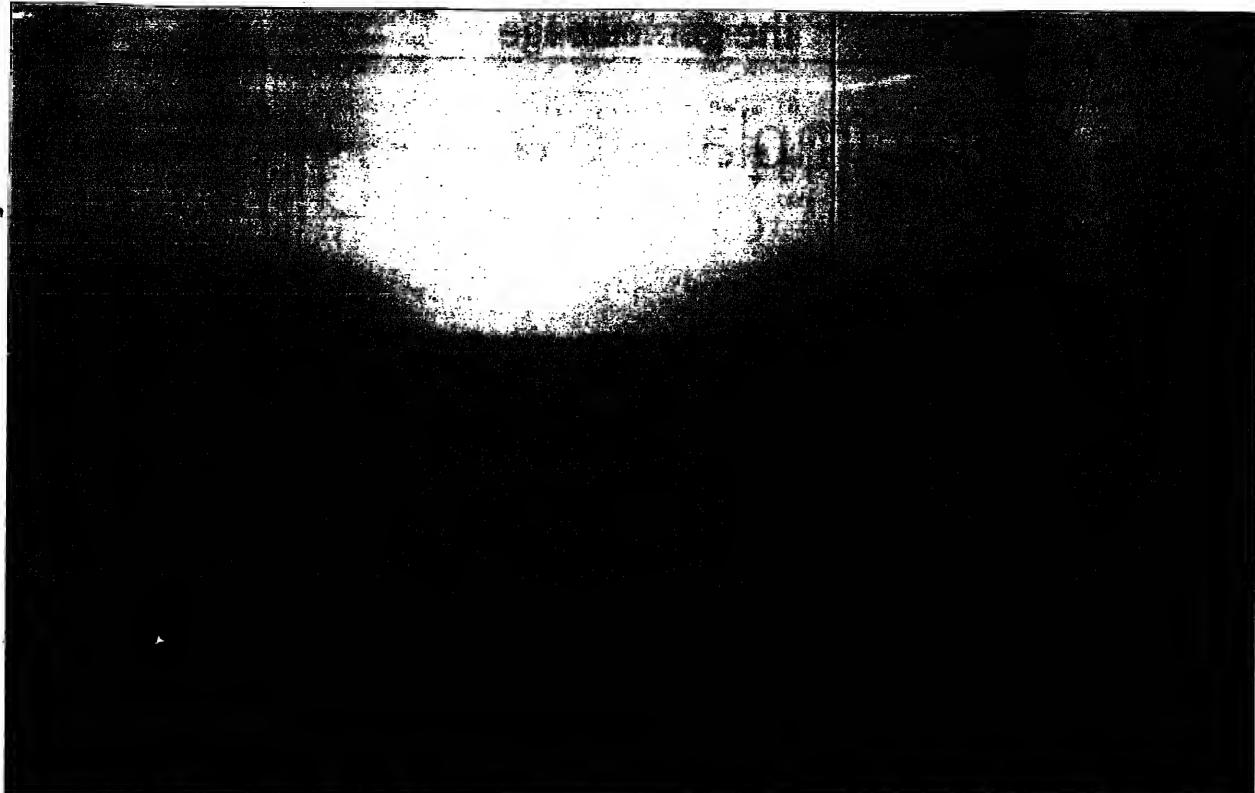
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victims of w of happy bul

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A fitting farewell to the old year: the sun sets over a wintry Cambridgeshire. Photograph by Brian Harris, Taken with 160 ASA colour negative film with 300mm lens. A for Auto exposure with one stop at f5.6

thelongweeken

How appropriate to end the year credit card by searching for with a sunset glowing bravely through the chilly dark of an East Anglian dusk. Just as the years come and go, the ritual of consumption reaches its feverish on disappearing to destinations height with New Year's Eve parties and, of course, the sales. You could ignore their seductive treat yourself to a new car – it tug on your already overworked has been one of the more

cheap works of art (cheap, yes; art, arguable) at that Nineties' phenomenon, the car boot sale, or decide to spend your money obscure and obvious. You could be even more conspicuous and

innovative years for a long time. Maybe the best thing to do is to don those brand-new walking boots you were given for Christmas and stride healthily away from the excesses of the night before and into a bright New Year. Who knows, you might walk long enough to see a sunset like this.

a year in pictures

a an

) cut



From victims of war to high jumpers and a load of happy bull

A selection of images which capture the best from The Independent's photographic pages 12&13 team

interview



John Walsh meets... Rick Stein

'I've no time for those starry chefs. We're not film or pop stars' page 3

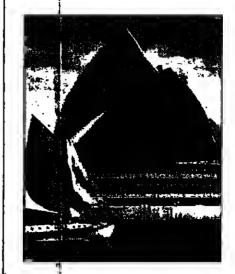
arts & books



Uncle Alf and a family gathering

A fictional slice of life from the north-east by Harry Pearson page 5

travel



Where to go next year (and where to miss)

Month by month guide on absolutely everywhere you can go pages 8&9

shopping



Now for the primeval ritual of 'saleing'

... or why it is that women like to go bargain-hunting in page 15 pairs

Travel page 7 Gardening page 14 Property & cars page 16 Money page 17 Film guide page 19 Walks page 20 Events page 21

Tales of the implausible

Assess your gullibility quotient with a new quiz from William Hartston, based on some of the sillier news items of the past year

The most splendidly bizarre of the new Christmas games this year has been True or False from Hasbro. Players move their counters around a Ludo-like board according to whether they can correctly identify a series of implausible-sounding statements as true or false. Here are some

a) Our forefathers immersed yarn in a bath of urine to dye it blue. The process worked best if the urinedonor had drunk alcohol. h) Rembrandt used a drunken old beggar from Amsterdam as the model for his painting The Wise King Solomon.

c) in 1993, a 73-year-old deaf and lame pensioner set a new record as the oldest hank robber in Denmark. d) In a Charlie Chaplin lookalike competition, Charlie Chaplain once came third.

You'll find the answers at the end. Now, in the spirit of True or False. we'd like to offer you a little news review of the year. Here are 10 supposed news items of 1996 of which five are genuine and five complete fahrications. If you think you can identify which are which, just send the numbers of the five genuine items to "True or False Competition" at the address given in the corner of the page. We have three copies of True-or False to give to contestants who identify all five correctly - or failing that to those with the most correct answers.

1) When Madame Tussaud's Waxwork Exhibition opened for the first time in Melbourne, Australia, this year, an error was made in reassembling the exhibit which had been shipped from Britain in pieces. As a result the Duchess of York appeared with the head of the Princess of Wales and vice versa. The error was noticed only minutes before the celebrity opening of the exhibition.

2) A Frenchman, identified only as Jean-Marie C, was so annoyed at a bill for the tax due on his gambling wionings that he hired a convoy of armoured vans to deliver 920 sacks containing 3,730,606 one-franc coins to the tax collector. "My gesture is symbolic," he said. "The franc is the monetary unit of France.

3) A couple found guilty of cogaging



An early maked cormorant-catchers' festival in Osaka

in a sexual act during a baseball

game in Los Angeles at the Dodger Stadium were ordered to buy 50 tickets for games this season and donate them to charity. They were also placed on two years' probation and ordered to attend Aids education classes.

4) The first Christian Nudist Conference, held at Whispering Pines Resort, began with Carol Love, the owner of the resort, reciting the following poem:

Here we are sixting together in the

Some folks in society would exclaim to us, how rude! But we know we're all good people, we came to praise the Lord. So let's all shout to Jesus and clap our hands of one accord.

5) At the National Funeral Directors' Convection in Cincinnati a set of oecklace designs called the Heirloom Pendant Collection was

launched. The pendants in gold, white gold and diamonds, are called Teardrop, Infinity and Love and are designed to have a small amount of ashes or lock of hair from the departed sealed inside them. "The trend in personalising the death experience is something we've seen grow over the last 10

years," said Terry Dieterle, an

undertaker from Aurora who created the necklaces.

6) The city of Osaka in Japan held a Festival of Cormorant Trapping Congress, reviving a tradition last celebrated in the first half of the 19th century. Unclothed participants were required to demonstrate novel ways of catching cormorants with points being awarded for ingenuity as well as the oumber caught.

7) After Ron Knivett won the conker contest at the Lamb and Flag puh oear Worcester, he was

stripped of the title by the judge, who happened to be his brother Martin, after allegations that he had. bolstered his conkers with cardboard. Ron said that he had only put cardboard in because the hole he had drilled in the conker. was too large. Martin said: "There were accusations made after the event and following an investigation I ruled that Ron had indeed been using illegal substances."

8) Psychologists at the University of Chicago have shown that the pitch of a swan's honk may be affected by sounds played to the egg in the month before it hatches. Within a certain range of musical notes, encompassing about an octave, an unborn swan can be "programmed" to honk at any specified pitch. "We haveo't yet got a choir of swans singing Yankee Doodle," said Dr Larry Steinberg, "but you might say that we now have the technology to do so if we wanted."

Pisa has moved half a degree back towards the vernical to the past year. City enryeyors say it is a question of differential subsiderace," and does not mean the structure is any less unsafe than it was.

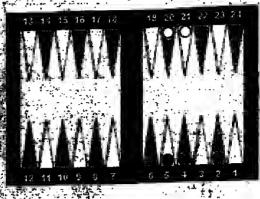
10) Following an injunction taken out in a court in Colombo, recordings of the Spice Girls may not be played or sold in Sri Lanka unless the group changes its name. The injunction was obtained by a workers' co-operative called Spice Girls, that exports herbs and spices. The judge ruled that while there was little chance of the products of the two groups being confused, it was "not correct" for the singers to "profit from the sound reputation" of the spice firm.

Answers to the True or False items: b) is false; the other three items are all

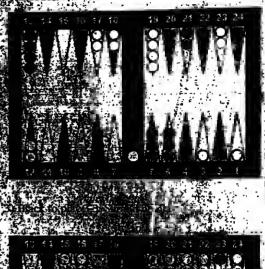
Backgammon Chris Bray

Ready to relax over the festive seasoo? I trust that ou will still find time to enter our Christmas quiz. East prize is a copy of Advanced Backgammon, kindly donated by twice world champion Bill Robertic, and second prize is a copy of The Backgammon Handbook by Heyken and Fischer. All you have to do is answer the following three questions. Entries should be marked "Backgammon Competition" and sent to the address given below.

2) Black on roll – a) Should Black double? if If doubled, should White take or drop?



x on roll-a) Should Black double?



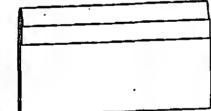
Don't junk it ... use it! Things you'd probably be better off not doing with the detritus of Christmas

Christmas cards: Cut out the pretty bits to make tags for gifts. (Ideally, you should have done this as soon as they arrived to save on storage space.) Or cut out the pictures to make an

Tissue paper: Dampen and twist ioto decorative string to wrap parcels. (Doo't wet them too much, or your string will dissolve.)

Wrapping paper: Cut into strips and weave together to make drinks coasters or placemats. Or - if you can find an

untorn piece about A4 size - you can make a wallet like this:



1. Fold paper top to bottom, leaving the crease at the top. Fold up a narrow hem at the bottom edge.

2. Fold hem edge to within



of the top of the original fold.

3. Make a similar hem oo the lower sheet and fold this up to within about a centimetre of the previous fold. You

your wallet, which should look like the next diagram.

4. Now for the tricky part. Fold and unfold the right and left edges and

centre to complete the wallet. Present to anyone who was unfortunate enough not to be given a real leather wallet for Christmas. Just in time to start saving .

inside along the fold marks. Fold down

The tree: Strip off oeedles, saw off branches leaving just a few at different levels a few inches long. Use as har, coat or shoe stand, thus liberating last week's coathangers. Alternatively, just throw it all away. One can take this recycling business too far, you know.

Bawn O'Beirne-Ranelagh

Whatever happened to ... Nineteen ninety-six?

The year: A leap year as Uranus moved into Aquarius.

The consequences: At the beginning of 19%, astrologers said that the planetary shift would make people more idealistic, but NatWest charged its mortgage borrowers an extra day's

Political predictions: Jonathan Cainer in the Dudy Mail predicted an election victory for Tony Blair before the end of 1996. Major will not last until the end of the year. Russell Grant agreed about Blair for PM, but not perhaps until early in 1007" His moon is in Aquarius, you see. Bhavna Pota, a Hindu astrologer, predicted changes in the leadership of the UK. United States and India, and a had time for Joho Major between March 1996 and March 1997. Shelley von Struncket said that Bill Clinton would be opposed by a political unknown. Old Moore's Almanae said that the peace process in Northern Ireland would be secured heyond doubt.

What happened: Tony Blair's moon is still in Aquarius, John Manor had a troubled year, but is still with us,

Royal predictions: Nicholas Campion, the president of the Astrological Association, said that Princess Diana may have a series of short-term relationships it the right man does not come along Shelley von Strunckel said that Charles and Diana would not divorce. Bhavna Pota said that Charles's second wife would be about five years younger than himself.
(32) Mover said that the Queen would capitulate over "a particularly contentious issue" in the autumn.

Point of information: Charles is a year younger than Camilla

Romantic predictions: Blawna Pota said that Jemima and Imran would have a son in 1996. Justin Toper (The Sun) thought they would have a halv, or adopt one. He also foresaw marriage between Hugh Grant and Liz Hurley.

Economics: John Rentoul wrote: "The British economy will trot along in 1996, forcing its rider. Kenneth Clarke, to cut interest rates to 6 per cent by mid-year and maybe as low as 5. 5 per cent by the end of the year.

Current interest rates: 6 per cent, just up from 5.75.

Conclusion: Sound economics are better than crystal halls.

Chess William Hartston



and mate in one easy! But how take to get to the diagram position? If you can work out the shortest route, you may win a prize in our

What did you get for Christmas? If it was a copy of the Chessmaster 5000 CD-Rom, you must be feeling pleased with yourself. While its playing program is not quite as strong as those of its rivals Fritz and Genius, the Chessmaster 5000 (from Mindscape) has a host of attractive additional features the others cannot match. Quite apart from a choice of playing tevels and time-controls, you can play on a variety of elegantly designed chess sets and he entertained by music of your choice while you play.

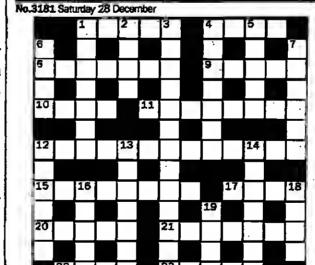
I lost several games to it before learning that the only thing to do if you want to have a chance of

winning is to select a straight two-dimensional, Staunton-pattern graphic, turn off the music and concentrate hard.

The lower levels of play are especially well-designed for the beginner. Unlike many computer chess programs, this one has an in-built tendency to be aggressive rather than materialistic. So it will sacrifice pieces just to expose the enemy king - which is just the sort of opponent you need in order to learn proper defensive technique.

If you didn't get Chessmaster 5000 for Christmas, but you do have Windows 95 and a CD-Rom drive on your computer, then all is not yet lost, because you have a chance to win one in our competition. All you have to do is work out how the position in the above diagram was reached. We can tell you that White has just made his 19th move. Can you reconstruct the

moves that led here? (Legality is the sole criterion.) Three copies of Chessmaster 5000 will be awarded to senders of the first correct answers we open after the closing date. Entries to: Chess Competition, at the address given at the bottom right.



DOWN

Plaintive cry (7)

Implement (4) Fruit (8,5)

Animal fat (4)

Swiss mountain (5)

13 Persoo newly risen to

position of power (7)

14 Place of pilgrimage (7)

16 Revolting individual?

18 Child's toy (2-2)

Struggle (7)

Mend (6)

12 Pointless (6)

ACROSS

Hag (5) Watery part of milk (4) Mythical beast (7) Bird of prey (5) 10 Record (4)

11 Outbreak of emotionalism (8) 12 Palmist, e.g. (7-6) 15 Irritating (8) 17 Precious stone (4) 20 Zodiac sign (5)

21 Washing (7) 22 Apartment (4) 23 Musical symbols (5)

19 Leave (4) Salution to vesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Marrying, 5 Bard (Marienbad), 9 Umber, 10 Typhoon, 11 Huilstones, 14 Undercarriage, 16 Editorials, 20 Chateau, 21 Usher, 22 Dame, 23 Etchings, DOWN: 1 Mouthful, 2 Rebuilds, 3 Yarns, 4 National Trust, 6 Anon, 7 Done, 8 Appear, 12 Marathon, 13 Censures, 15 Rudder, 17 Rough, 18 Acid, 19 Caim.

Bridge Competition Alan Hiron

In each of the first three questions, a normal Two Club system is assumed and it is a high standard rubber bridge game. In the first two you are given five possible solotions and asked to mark them out of

1) South holds at love all: · ♥9765432 **♣**K North East

1D pass How do you rate bids of Three Spades, Four Spades, Two Clubs, Three Clubs and

Four Clubs? 2) With East-West vulnerable, South holds:

♥J 10 7 4 **♦QJ108 ♣**KQ642 North East **4S**

(North's Two Diamoods is a Multi - either a Weak Two in a major or a strong three-suited hand.) How do you rate bids of Five Hearts, Six hearts. Seven Hearts, Five Spades and Four No-trumps?

3) As South, dealer at love-all, you hold:

♥A] 853 **Q74**

Your fifth spade (Y) is mspecified. What is the lowest value for this card to enable you to open the bidding?

4) As South, with East-West vulnerable, you hold: ♠KQ32 **Q4 4**10973 North East South 18 dble 2H

dble

Having decided to pass your partner's second take-out double for penalties, what do you lead? What about S2, DQ. C10, C3 or something else?

all pass

◆KJ9 ♥K83 ♥AJ4 **♦**Q84 ♦AKJ 103 ♣AJ 10 2 ♣KQ6

As West, you open 1NT (15-17 points) and are raised directly to 6NT North leads C9; how should you play?(Please limit your answer to question 5 to not more than 60 words!)

AND SHAPE

Send your answers to: Bridge Competition, at the address given below. Senders of the best sets of solutions will receive book prizes from Chess & Bridge Ltd. The winners will be announced, and the problems discussed next month.

Entries to all competitions should be sent to: (Competition name), The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, to arrive on or before 11 January 1997. Normal competition rules apply.

URN TO PAGE 25... for the weather, sky at night, Jasper Rees on TV, Robert Hanks on radio and Kerber's new cartoon strip

THE WEST TONG WEST

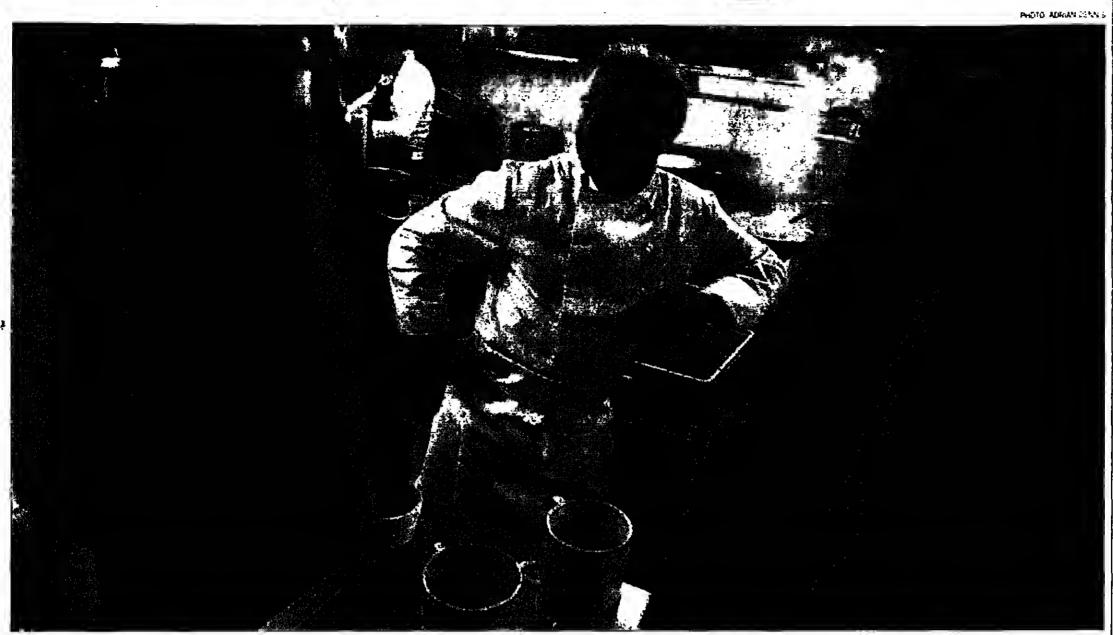
non Chris Bray

Soon of he play

Boar o Brach

tion Alan Mi

Small pond, big fish



ome miles removed from the west London studios where they broadcast Rick Stein's Fruits of the Sea, a good four hours on the Waternish village of Padstow. Like Mousehole, the village it most resembles, about fish," he says. its harbour is a near-perfect ring. into which small fishing boats and battered trawlers come gracefully home, after the malevolent swell of the Atlantic. Like other Cornish fishing (and smuggling) communities, Padstow has a nice line in tragic folklore, mainly centred on the "Doom Bar", the nasty-looking sandbank that lies like a recumbent bouncer across the mouth of the estuary, as if warning ships not to come near. Hundreds of boats have been heached, wrecked and capsized on the Doom Bar, most recently in 1994, when two bass fishermen got too close and were tipped over by the waves. The other thing you need to know is that Padstow's name is a corruption of "Petroc's Stowe" - St Petroc being a Welsh divine who founded a monastery in Padstow and thus made it the religious capital of Cornwall in the trend-hungry years of the 6th

century AD. Today, Padstow's most famous inhabitant is a huge fan of St Petroc, having gone to the extent of naming his fashionable hotel 'n' histro after the loveable saint who could number dragons among his friends. But unlike the local fisherman, he needn't worry about running aground on anything worse than the sandbank of popular taste. Rick Stein is a chef and restaurateur who has capitalised on the idea of "keeping faith" with the local, the regional, the quaintly backyard. Stressing his closeness to the fishing community and his empathy with the sea, its "moods", its "taste", its "fruits", he has become the most famous fish chef in the country, through the BBC series Rick Stein's Taste of the Sea and the book that accompanied it. He is about to begin a second series of ichthyceotric musings in January, this time entitled Rick

Stein's Fruits of the Sea. He comes hustling into the Seafood Restaurant, his premier league caterie, planks himself down beside you in the conservatory and asks, "Are you happy with such a small wine glass?" When you point out it's actually sherry in a, you know, sherry glass, he laughs delightedly. He is large, solid-looking guy with exiguous hair, a frank and open face, a startlingly blue shirt and wildly mobile eyehrows. The fingers of his right hand are offputtingly stained with red dye, like the grooms in an am-dram Macbeth. Blood? Cochiocal? "No, it's pecan nuts, actually. I've heeo mibbling them in the car."

Mr Stein has driven down from Birmingham, where he has been attending the BBC's autumnal Good Food Show. "It's fascinating to watch them all, the starry chefs [he will not specify hut it's clear he is talking about Gary Rhodes and Anthony Worrall-Thompson] striking atti-tudes. I mean, they're only chefs. It's

not like they're film stars or pop stars. the new TV series, which also fea-It's that old cultural thing, I'm afraid. tures a hidden camera across the Being interested in food is just not road from Stein's Seafood Restauthe same as being interested in reading books..."

Did his programme have an atti-I'm keeo to educate British taste

There's more to it than making cash out of writing the book and going on the telly. I feel embarrassed there's so much fish around the British Isles and we're just not making the best of it. It's a job of re-education for Tesco's as much as for

rant, recording the reactions of passers-by. "Fish, fish, fish, fish, fish, fish, oysters, fish," says one chap distude, beyond displaying his enthu- missively to his date, as they scrutinise the menu. "It's all fish here." owned a lobster boat. "Both my par-Watching Stem on television, you're ents were keen cooks," he loo-Bodmin line, lies the tiny Cor- siasm (and his restaurant)? "Yes. nise the menu. "It's all fish here." struck by what a natural performer he is to the camera. His knobbly features and burly frame are always moving, always dancing away like a boxer in front of a scalding wok or idays here all the time." At Oxford,

Waste Land: "Under the brown fog of a winter dawn/ A crowd flowed over Londoo Bridge ... ".

Stein grew up in a village called Churchill near Chipping Norton in Oxfordshire. His father was a director of the Distillers company and cohe We had a house in Padstow since I

at the moment he was describing it, I couldn't disagree. It was gorgeous. Never again, you tell yourself, will I watch haddock disintegrating in my frying pao in three inches of boiling

Sauvienon... remembers, "but my father was par-ticularly good at soops and shellfish. cooking. A nation that has historicomplements to fish are salt, vine-

then eating opposite the maeistrom doesn't work for me. I don't find it very imaginative." So there. He is typically self-deprecating

about being a celebrity. "Yeah, it's all right. But I'm only a minor celebrity. It means that, while the series and the repeats are on, people want to Stein's second innovation is to come up and shake your hand. It hring exotie and unusual flavours. took some getting used to. During spices and sauces to traditional fish cooking. A nation that has historically thought the only allowable Evening Standard, and this hloke came up and started saying someboxer in front of a scalding wok or fish kettle, tossing a massive two-hundredweight Le Creuset frypan full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella. How differmobile discos for common room par-full of Valencian paella discos for common room paella discos for commo just saying. Saw you on the telly ... '

When not cooking, or travelling, or filming, he surfs and swims with his ubiquitous Jack Russell Chalky. and does exhibition events in front of business executives or aspirant foodies, with his trusty two-burner stove. Like Delia Smith (but without the prima donna side), he likes doing stage demonstrations, about which he tells funny stories of things going wrong - such as turning the cooker nff again and again because he couldn't see if the gas was on or not. "But I've spoken in my hrother, who's an eminent neuropsychologist, and he assures me the mind goes blank in the same way when you're preparing for a medicat

What, I wondered, did he (or his brother) make of the death of Terence Donavan? The Sixties photographer had apparently killed himself cause he'd come in see the art in which he'd given his life as repetiwhich a least of attempts to do things which a hundred young pretenders could now do just as well. Did Rick Stein ever get fed up cooking fish for people? "Mmm – well. Terence Donovan was an artist. There was nothing else than his art. What I've got is a kitchen full of chefs of different ability, raw materials of different quality, customers of different grades of niceness, staff with different shortcomings, from having nervous hreakdowns to nicking things out of the till, plus all the TV and stuff. Cooking, and running a restaurant, it's not about art. It's more like having lots of children, and knowing you can't ever stop worrying about any of them... Fruits of the Sea' begins 8 Jan. BBC2:



One of the undoubted highlights of next year will be the official opening of Shakespeare's Globe. There are problems still to be increome, not least the carefully unpublicised one about the noise from the redevelopment of the neighbouring Bankside power station into the Tate's national museum of modern art. There's also the semantic difficulty that the Globe certainly gave the appearance of opening this year, but that was apparently merely a protogue season on a temporary stage. Next summer sees the real, fully thatched McCoy, when Mark Rylance, the Globe's artistic director, opens in (and as) Henry 1'.

When I met Rylance I wondered if there might not he a problem with the ribaldry and heckling from the courtyard spectators that was such a joy in the prologue season for the comedy Two Gentlemen of Virona hut may sit less comfornably with a tragedy or even a history play. Rylance told me he loved it when audiences became so involved with Two Gentlemen of Virona as to shout "Don't Do It Julia" when the heroine was considering taking back her errant lover.

But could he really stomach "Don't do it Harry" from the audience just as he was about to spill blood at Agincourt? Rylance was impressively unfazed, "it's nnt necessarily helpful," he acknowledged, "but you learn to cope. Once in Wolverhampton in the final act of Hamlet a kid shouted 'Look out Hamlet'. It put Laertes off his guard and I scored a hit."

Any hopes of showing solidarity with Trevor Nunn and keeping the word luvvie nut of this column have been dashed by Glenn Close's diary of the making of 101 Dalmatians in the film magazine Premiere. Rending it, one is seized by an urge to scream it.

The actress, it seems, is eager to hanish the demou of Cruella De Vil from her sont. Her last diary entry is particularly poignant. "I realise how ready I am tn let Cruella go," she writes. "Cruella is evil and outrageous, nothing to do with sensitivity or heart. Like a shark, she sees something move and she strikes. I'm glad I did it, but fun as It was, I will not mourn her It must have been trau-

matic indeed playing a dognapping cartoon character. Heaven heip Glenn Cluse's sensitivity if she tackles Lady Macbeth.

One of the minor seasonal

diversions is to await the Christmas card from the Department of National Heritage and then relate the picture on the front to recent news events in the arts. Most secretaries of state will insist on the most anodyne artwork possible or something deeply abstract rather than anything that can be related to cuts. hroken promises or shady dealings. But still basking in her schievement in keeping the Treasury to a standstill grant for the arts rather than the threatened 3 per ceot cut. Virginia Bottomley is serenc. Her card arrives portraying Edward Burne-Jones's The Angel. Now that's what I call confidence.

John Walsh meets...Rick Stein 'It's all to do with the public's increased enthusiasm for food. I feel part of a sociological change in this country'

a new recipe for some obscure fish, and they'll remind me that the three most popular fish in the British Isles are still cod, haddock and plaice..."

Stein is not a native Padstovian, but he is something of a local treasure, in a small village with no industry, manufacture or conspicuous local endeavour beyond fishing and souvenir shops. Not everyone, of course, finds him wholeheartedly adorable. Listen to the chat of locals and you'll hear stories of his short temper, the high turnover of kitchen staff at his restaurant, the hordes of imbecile London foodies he attracts to the town, the prices in his delicatessen... One way that local feeling manifests itself is in the rumour heard on three occasions, that Stein is on the point of opening a fish 'n' chip shop in the town. Whether this is local snobbery (my dear, are we going to turn into Hastings?) or a local plea for a restaurant the poorer classes can afford, it's hard to say. "I keep picking up this rumour," Stein says, but it's just not true. I've got a bistro up at St Petroc's (that is, his hntel) but that's about it."

Between restaurant, bistro and deli, he employs about 80 people. Although he admits, "Tve certainly lost staff through going off the deep end and ranting at them; but it does rather wind me up when someone does something wrong six times in succession and then does it again...", he is more a fond paternalist than a tyrant. Every summer, for instance, he invites all his employees and their families to a massive beach barbecue. "We put a gas burner on the beach and have this massive cookout for 200 people. This summer we did lobster, crah, prawns, monkfish, all of it in Thai red curry paste. Had a hit of a problem with gatecrashers. of course, because you tan't really fence off a beach and say, 'Look, eff off, this isn't your party." A nearby pub decided to stay open as long as the revellers wanted. By all accounts,

restaurateurs - I can come up with a new recipe for some obscure fish, and they'll remind me that the three ent, you think, from the hibulous ties. Later, be worked as a "greaser" in the engine room of a ship, and coal-face worker rather than the spent some time roustabouting in Café Royal dandy. His most relaxed presentational mode is, as it were, face to face

across a table, as if he'd just finished an irritatingly rushed tuncheon and was simply shooting the breeze with the viewer before disappearing into the kitchen.

There's something slightly forced about these moments (complete with charming fluffs and digressions), but you inevitably warm to him. The TV show, with its moody shots of Cornish cliffs, and its inculgent tour-documentary of Padstow's local customs, is a calculated display of regional integrity and community fun, as fictional in its way as The Darting Buds of May.

Something else you get, rather unexpectedly, is poetry. Footage of soaring gulls is accompanied by Blakes Auguries of Innocence ("To see a World in a grain of sand..."). Chatting about the timelessness of eating rituals, he misquotes Hardy's "In the Time of the Breaking of Nations" ("Yet this will go onward the same/Though Dynasties pass"). Allusions to Shakespearean songs ("But as you grow to man's estate...") spring naturally to his lips. "Well I am an English graduate." Stein reminds you (he studied Eng Lit at New College, Oxford, under Christopher Tolkien, the Old English specialist and son of the hobbit fancier), "and it's nice to drop some poetry into the series when there's an opportunity. Once we were trying to link a cooking shot with a lovely shot of the estuary at dawn. Between all the Thai green curry and the stirfried scallops, we were a bit stumped. I thought maybe a bit of Shakespeare then I thought, what we need is contrast, something about where the

spent some time roustabouting in Australia. His big break came when his Uncle Otto in Dusseldorf left him a cool £10,000 and, in partnership with a meat huver at Smithfield, he set up a discotheque on the Padstow harbour front.

"Unfortunately it was impossible to keep order. There used to be terrible fights. All the fishermen would come in at 5.30 and get terribly pissed. And, since there was nowhere else in Padstow with a fate licence. they'd stay there. We had some spectacular barneys." So Stein and his partner re-thought the place as a restaurant, which it remains to this day. "In those days," he recalls, "people's expectations of eating out were very low. We kept it simple, mainly because I hadn't learnt to cook anything fancy. We'd do prawn cocktail, prawns with avocado..." But gradually things started shifting

up several gears. "It's all to do with the public's increased enthusiasm for food. I feel part of a sociological change in this country, although I don't necessarily ascribe the change to myself..." To a remarkable degree, Stein relies on the enthusiasm of his diners and triends, who suggest dishes and criticise his more out-landish creations. "What I like," he says, "is people coming in and

encouraging us to be better." The main innovations for which he is responsible are twofold. First, he doesn't like recipes where the fish disintegrates in the stew. "We went to Marseilles during the filming and had a bouillabaisse. I got a little pissed off because they turn it into such a performance, such a commitment. You have to sit down and about the sun rising over the sea. But endure this ritual, when the only point of the dish is to use up any fish that weren't sold in the market by the ideas for recipes come from. If end of day. I don't like all that fierce you're living in a grey city, for boiling. We do it separately, make a instance..." And that is why the nice couillon with lots of flavourings quite a shindig.

The clambake appears on film in dawn-estuary shot is accompanied by like a salt cod, and add it to the fish at the end... Since it was what I was

1989), won the Glenfiddieh Food Book of the year. Show him some smoked haddock and he'll instantly surround it with curried potatoes and posched eggs. Give him a handful of prawns and he'll assault them with chilli marinade and tandoori spices. He is a perfect fiend for kaffir lime leaves. He has a bit of a thing about coriander, turmeric and the Thai fish sauce called mam pla. Should he wish to impress a friend, he'll serve a sea bass with a vinaigrette flavoured with dry vermouth

and vanilla... "The most inventive places for fish cooking at the mnment are Australia and California," he says firmly. They have a refreshingly guiltless attitude in borrowing ideas from all over the place. The French, nn the other band, are very proud of their traditional fish cuisine and very suspicious of people who throw garlic and chilli and coriander about. They think people like me are magpie-ing." Given his interest in borrowing from other cultures, it seemed odd that he didn't try more home-grown delights - like star-gazy pie, that historic staple of south coast cuisine. "It doesn't really work, stargazy pie. You can't have an nily fish the book of the series is published by pilchards - in a creamy pie. It just BBC Books 9 Jan, £17.99





More artistic angst with Damien Hurts on page 23

arts & books

Not £200. Not £100. To you, love, 75p. Philip Sweeney finds gems in a car boot

t was retro cuisine, the alleged vogue for Sixties dishes such as Black Forest gateau and chicken Kiev – as reported by the new tits 'n' brioche monthly Eat Soup - that finally convinced me. There is now no field of human consumption in which the naff and cast-off are not in the vanguard of desirability; the car boot sale is henceforth unopposed as the chic-est, best-value, ineluctably most sensible retail institution of the beginning of the third millennium. And still, unlike most so-called flea markets, cheap.

"Personally, I think no-fashion is the most sophisticated look of all," observed Christian Lacroix in a recent interview, putting his finger flatteringly on one's very own "look", before going on to reveal that the décor of his house in the rue des Beaux Arts bad been acquired at flea markets in Paris, Camden and Bermondsey at a cost of not more than £200 to £300 nn item! (My exclamation mark.) Good God, Chris, I thought, they must have seen you coming, mineing round Bermondsey in impeccably clashing jacket and tie, bran-dishing your platinum Crédit Lyonnais charge card. For £200 at a car boot sale, you could buy an entire life, with any two of the traders who took your fancy thrown

in for the extra pony.

The ascendancy of the car boot sale aesthetic first became apparent in the field of music, as the Easy Listening phenomenon took hold last year. Where else do you get those witty Les Baxter and Herb Alpert LPs, and the Tretyakoff prints and Babycham glasses to go with them? Within weeks of taking up Easy Listening. I had acquired. for 75p, a 12-album Reader's Digest set, boxed in slate-blue Nagahide with gold tooling and certified excellent by David Jacobs, entitled Mood Music for Listening and Relaration, covering, album by Moonlight Piano, Hits from Broadway. Vienna Bonbons, Candlelight and Wine ... From then on, the classics dropped into my grasp like ripe Black Forest gateaux - items such as Hammond A Gogo, Vols I and II, "famous evergreens and latest hits presented in true A-gogo style by James Last and his Hammond-Bar-Combo", on the cover of which the hyphenated maestro leers teutonically from behind a large candlestick at a permed model, as she sips a-gogo style from an antique silver Bavarian mulled wine cup. Soon I became frankly elitist - for so-called Easy Listening, some of this stuff is practically bloody Shostakovich - and began



had that Thinker in the back of my cab once

to reject anything but the truly moronic: Settle Down with Roger Whittaker, Funky Junction Play a Tribute to Deep Purple and the magisterially facile Let Phil Tute

Play for Your Dance Party.

Then it became apparent that not just Easy Listening, but all aspects of musical life were to be found at the car boot sale disquaire. I set myself a simple task: for the price of one new CD -£14.99, say modern music collection and the means to play it. The work of two hours, it turned out. First, an immaculate 1968 Dansette Viva in cream and maroon (long MoT. almost new stylus) for a fiver. Then the library: early opera (a 1958 version of White Horse him featuring Rita Williams, the Rita Williams singers and the Tony Osborne Orchestra), the Bristol Sound (Time to Play by Russ Conway), jungle (A Swingin' Safari by Bert Kaemphert), drum n'bass (ditto with the Dansette's trehle and bass dials both up to full whack), world music (Lacuciones en Benidorm by Anon), queercore (Gai Gai les Bretons by the Robert Trabucco

Musette Ensemble), Celtic New Age (Gai Gai les Bretons with the Dansette at 16 rpm).

With £1.50 still left, I indulged myself in two outstanding specimens of organ arcana: Ena Baga's Hammond Holiday by Reginald Dixon's replacement at the Tower Bailroom, Blackpool, a lady adept at Swing, Latin, ballads and/or legitimate techniques; and The Cordovox Magic of Valentino, a sort with a purple ruffled shirt, 27,000 fans (Irish, presumahly), haby seal and a £2,000 stereophonic Cordovox capable of reproducing any sound from a Hawaiian guitar to a jet plane.

So successful was my record experiment, I began to apply the same principle to other areas, with equally spectacular results. In absolutely any field of human endeavour, you can replicate dernier cri fashion, in the space of half a morning and for a fraction of the cost. Clothing is easy, as 90 per cent of today's fashion beadlines deal in reworkings of early Seventies this or late Fifties that or mid-period Biba the other. I settled

more or less at random on the English Eccentrics photospread unveiled in the Independent on Sunday last March and rapidly put together a version of the Rifat Ozbek yellow minidress, thigh boots and gloves-couture that cost a couple of grand, presumably -from the crowded racks of Ego, Dorothy, Tammy Girl or Yessica labels at an "Any Three Items for the wide scope for individual cre- peach halves, one can cherries: £1" stall. The matching yellow wig two quid, but I found it eventually, labelled "Fun Wig: Adult Carnival Accessory. Made in China", on a novelty stall, along with Taiwanese pantyhose, joke condoms and sticky trolls. Vivienne Westwood's English Eccentrics coat was a cinch, too, and, as for the Katharine Hamnett Sixties leather jacket, sequined bikini and tartan tights outfit, the whole thinking was so uncannily in tune with the contents of the novelty stall, I could have sworn the stallholder actually was Katharine Hamnett, kitted out with fake beer gut, raddled makeup and T-reg Sierra, for some sort

of stylish weekend prank. Furniture

and interiors are almost as easy as

clothes. Seventies-style shag-pile rugs and G-Plan furniture are in, says issue number one of Wallpaper magazine. Nothing more to add, really, except perhaps to draw attention to the investment potential of china carthorses in little plastic harnesses pulling barrels of sherry or sets of fetching satineffect metal coasters. And to note ativity. There's something fantas- method: place cherries in pinethe video director, Zanna, as she shows the contents of her converted schoolhouse studio - all distressed walls, lurid fabrics and groups of disfigured dolls - to this month's Elle Decoration. Absolutely right, especially when deployed in juxtaposition with other curious objects like the wacky and collectable Ingram's Perfex bakelite enema set I spotted for £1.50 recently, or an enigmatic and disturbing row of charred Yorkshire pudding tins. Talking of which, what, finally,

about car boot cuisine? For retro recipes, no problem. Try the following from the Farepak Book of Parties and Entertaining, authored

by one Myra Street in 1968: bacon and egg pie - a virile, native and happening quiche lorraine from the Television Suppers chapter (ingredients; bacon, eggs, pastry, Worces-tershire sauce). Or this original and elegant main course accompaniment from the Christmas Dinners section: fruit rings (ingredients: one can pineapple rings, one can heat). The ingredients can be found at knock-down prices and from different provenances, along with Finnish Panda brand Jammy Dodgers, Arabic label export Midget Gems and bags of things called Foam Mis-shapes.

On reflection, however, the dish most perfectly representative of car boot sale chic seems to me to be the pickled egg, so often to be found in close proximity to lead-effect garden gnomes and bulldogs announcing "Piss Off" or "Make My Day". With a big jar of pickled eggs on board, you can reverse confidently into the future, conjuring a merry dialectic as you go between fashion, no-fashion and junk.

Preface to 1997

Boyd Tonkin looks ahead to the new year's lead reads

A lan Coren once called a volume of his collected pieces Golfing for Cats. He reckoned that, since both key words famously appealed to bookshop buyers, combining them would double his sales potential. On that principle, a book that weds New Age mysticism to a sporting superstar ought to walk off the shelves. Davis Miller's The Tao of Muhammad Ali (Vintage, March) certainly wins the prize for Smartest Title of Early 1997. It joins a posse of forthcoming biographies that promise to reassess our heroes and villains. Opinions will differ on and villains. Opinions will differ the which is which, with, eg. Michael Heseline (by Michael Crick; Hamish Hamilton, February); Che Guevara (by John Lee Anderson; Bantam, April); or even Saint Paul (by AN Wilson; Sinclair-Stevenson, March). Fresb looks at genuine romantic heroes include Phyllis Grosskurth's life of Byron (Hodder, Feb) and two new perspectives on JMW Turner, by Anthony Bailey (Sinclair-Stevenson, May) and James Hamilton (Hodder,

It also looks like a strong spring for creative mavericks. Charles Nicholl follows Rimhand into Africa (Cape, May); David Hadju goes in search of Billy Strayhorn, the genius behind Duke Ellington (Granta, March) while Tom Hiney revisits Raymond Chandler's mean streets (Chatto, June) and Victor Bockris catches up with post-punk priestess

Patti Smith (Fourth Estate, June). Elsewhere, the British retreat from Hong Kong and the 50th anniversary of Indian freedom prompt a battalion of post-imperial reappraisals. Hong Kong lends a setting to Paul Theroux's new novel (Kowloon Tong, Hamish Hamilton, May), while Tim Heald reports on its dying colonial days (Beating Retreat; Sinclair-Stevenson, May). Indian excursions include new lives of Gandhi by Yogesh Chadha (Century, March) and Nebru by Nigel Hamilton (Century, April), Sunil Khilnani analyses The Idea of India (Hamish Hamilton, June) and Patrick French traces the road to HarperCollins, June). For more flippant sidelights on empire, join Harry Ritchie's tour around The Last Pink Bits (Hodder, May); or, for a bold account of why imperial powers succeed at all, Jared Diamond's Guns, Germs and Steel (Cape, April).

Back home, election year sees some original takes on a fastchanging society. Stephen Pollard and Andrew Adonis explore Britain's social divisions in A Class Act (Hamish Hamilton, June), while Vernon Bogdanor investigates Power and the People (Gollancz, April). Blake Morrison considers our family troubles in As If (Granta, March); and Michael Bracewell evokes "pop life in Albion" (England is Mine; HarperCollins, March). Blairite guru Geoff Mulgan offers his big picture in Connexity (Chatto, Feb) as Charles Handy reconciles work with life in The Hungry Spirit (Hutchinson, May). Standing out among many titles that look into cyberspace are Sadie Plant's Zeroes and Ones (Fourth Estate, March) and John Seabrook's Deeper (Faher, March). The hi-tech global market takes a hammering from John Gray (False Dawn: the Delusions of Global Capitalism; Granta, June) and former bishop David Jenkins (Can we Think Again?; Sinclair-Stevenson, May). Still on the radical side, newwave feminism can boast Joan Smith's Different for Girls (Chatto, June) and Margaret Anne Doody's epic of revisionist LitCrit. The True Story of the Novel (HarperCollins. Among the spring crop of fiction.

expect great things from Jonathan Coe's The House of Sleep (Viking, May) and Edmand White's The Farewell Symphony (Chatto, May). Controversy will reliably break out around Jeanette Winterson's Gut Symmetries (Granta, Jan); Martin Amis's stories in Straight Fiction (Flamingo, May) and Will Self's Great Apes (Bloomsbury, April). Among novelists from beyond these shores, Saul Bellow returns with The Actual (Viking, June), Pasolini's rediscovered Petrolio will fuel debate (Secker, May); and Arundhati Roy looks set to become India's Next Big Thing with The God of Small Things (Flamingo, June). Finally, you may recall that Gilbert Adalr revealed here that he bad given up on novels in despair. Well, I'm pleased to announce that - in a fit of absentmindedness - he appears to have written one: The Key to the Tower (Heinemann, June). And jolly good it sounds as well. "Do I contradict myself?" as Walt Whitman wrote, "Very well then I contradict myself"

The girlie who couldn't shock 'n' roll

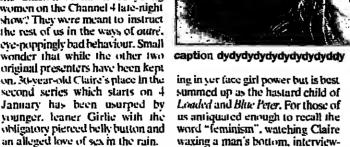
Claire Gorham tells Janie Lawrence how she is much too serious for 'The Girlie Show'

Naire Gorham concedes that she was prohably never quite cut out to be a Girlie. She loathes night-clubs - way too noisy - and her ideal evening is a dinoer party with friends with a spot of Neil

Young. What sort of shocking pastime is this for a Girlie Show presenterette? After all wasn't shocking the mission of the three young women on the Channel 4 late-night show? They were meant to instruct the rest of us in the ways of outre. eye-poppingly bad behaviour. Small original presenters have been kept on, 30-year-old Claire's place in the second series which starts on 4 January has been usurped by younger, leaner Girlie with the obligatory pierced belly button and an alleged love of sex in the rain.

"I'm not a whoopee, whey-hey sort of person," says Claire in a tone verging on the apologetic, "I'm actually quite serious." Scarcely the most helpful attribute for a show that has been touted as personify-

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ing a shoplifter and proffer helpful

embarrassment. Surprisingly Claire is still keen to defend the programme and some of its - let's be charitable - adolescent obvious that it was not to her taste. antics. "A for of people really liked. it. It got high viewing figures. It never set out to be Panorama or The Late Show. It's just about girls having fun. It was Friday late night TV - what were people expecting? If it had been Jonathan Ross, Roland Rivron and Mark Lamarr, nobody

would have given a toss."

inspired, at least in part, by Claire's overriding fear that any criticism now will have people rushing to label her "a bitter old trout". For the record, she is not. She has remained good friends with her forhints with dildos was a cringing mer colleagues and is genuinely grateful that the show furnished her with that all important break into telly. Diplomacy aside, it's patently

> "I didn't think it would be such a light entertainment programme," she offers tentatively, "I thought it would be a little more informative.

The writing was on the wall for Claire even as they were filming the first series. "About three months in, I knew I wasn't right for the show and it wasn't right for me. I put it

Such a robust defence must be to the producers. They said it was I swallow'. Not only did I answer, I obvious I wasn't enjoying the work and that it came across on camera. Of course, nobody likes to be told they weren't right for something but it was a mutual sigh of relief. Friends who knew me well said that I looked embarrassed. I wasn't, but I did feet uncomfortable."

It has since been reported that there were nights after the show when Claire went home crying feeling that she had "sold her soul". This she now denies and declares only ooce during her tenure was she reduced to tears and this by a publicity interview for a prying glossy magazine. "Before I knew it, I was being asked all these intimate questions about my sex life ~ 'what did

answered truthfully, then I did go home and cry at my own stupidity. "On the show I just put myself into a bit of a bubble. I sat back, did it, and enjoyed it to the best of my ability. I've always been n bit rude and I'm naturally inquisitive, so I

will ask my friends about their sex

lives. But sometimes I'd go home and think 'I've done that on TV'." Since The Girlie Show the offers have not exactly flooded in, but she is reluctant to blame that on the show. "I think it's because there are so few black people out there. But an unsuitable spokeswoman for I also speak with a posh accent, so TV's brand of girl power: And it is I'm not quite rootsie enough to be on a hlack programme."

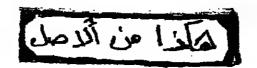
She has returned to ber previous I keep in my panty drawer and did free-lance journalism work and is executives.

hopeful of ber own slot on local radio. Meantime, she is fronting a *Travelog* programme (C4, 15 Jan-uary) for which she travelled to Switzerland. Offered either there or Portugal, she chose the former as it happens to be the nationality of her biological mother. Adopted and brought up by her parents in Wimbledon, she is one of nine children.

"It was interesting to visit a country that's so alien to the person you are. People would actually laugh at my clothes, because in Switzerland it's all Gucci shoes and Hermès scarves. It was the irony that somebody like me came from somewhere like there."

She has oever met her Nigerian father, but she has searched out ber birth mother. "Mum and Dad knew it was something I had to do. You don't like to acknowledge that something's out there that makes you incomplete, especially if you come from a family that is so loving. But it was a bit of an anticlimax. I wanted to see someone who looks like me, and my birth mother doesn't."

It is to Claire Gorham's credit that she was ultimately considered an indictment of what this power is meant to be. But then it is manu factured by middle-aged male TV



Strong drink and steel teeth Prefator Having trouble with the folks over the holiday? You should meet Harry Pearson's family I was Boxing Day and Uncle Alf was talking. Alf had a guttural Teesside account Microaline.

Alf had a guttural Teesside accent. His voice was so deep it sounded as if it was playing at the wrong speed. Barry White was a castrato by comparison. Uncle Alf spoke very loudly, as if trying to make himself heard above the noise of heavy machinery. When he started talking the windows rattled and the tea tray shuddered. Often by the time he'd finished an anecdote the milk in the jug had turned to butter. Uncle Alf was frequently attacked in pubs and social clubs. The motivation behind the assaults baffled him. It was less of a mystery to the rest of us.

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We were in the front room of my great-granny's house in Marske. The front room was bakingly hot. My great-granny came from a generation to whom heat equalled luxury. A coal fire crackled in the grate, an electric radiator hummed. The house was more thoroughly sealed than a pharaoh's tomb. An ambient temperature sufficient to wilt a cactus was considered a bit parky by my great-grandmother.

There are 15 of us in this tiny room. Older women sit in armchairs, younger women on dining chairs, small children on the arms of the chairs and the laps of aunties, men line the walls. I am' 12 or 12 and stand between my father's feet, his hands on my shoulders. My father has positioned himself by the front door with its promise of fresh air and escape.

From his niche between a bookcase and a cabinet filled with holiday souvenirs, Uncle Alf says, "Now here's a thing," and members of the family who wear glasses remove them, knowing from bitter experience that vibrating spectacles can chafeup nasty blisters in the nose and ears.

"I was in the top house the other day," Alf continues, "minding my own business, like. And I've just finished saying to our lass that these bloody strikers at British Steel want to get themselves back to work instead of lounging round sinking ale all day like a pack of lazy swines, when suddenly a stool comes flying across the bar and hits us on the shoulder." He pulls a grim face, "Luckily it had clipped the back of our lass's head on the way through and that had taken the sting out of it otherwise it might bave done me real damage. Aye totally out of the blue. Can you believe that?" And we all shake our heads, not in agreement, as he thinks, but in amazement at Alf's startling lack of self-awareness.

Uncle Alf shrugs at the strangeness of humankind and yells, "All I can say is, it's come to a pretty pass, when a bloke can't go out for a quiet drink without some hooligan hurling furniture at him."

"And is your lass all right?" someone ventures. Alf fixes the questioner with a look that suggests this kind of enquiry is the stupidest thing he has ever heard in his life, "Of course she is," he bellows, "Our lass? She's tough as teak.".

And deaf as a post. My great-grandmother sits in a wing-backed chair, nodding. She is a tiny woman, white-haired and much admired. She is dignified and softly

and much admired. She is dignified and softly spoken. Unless the church bells ring. At the first peel she leaps to her feet, shaking her fist and shouting, "Damn them bloody Wesleyans!"

The bells are actually the responsibility of the Church of England across the street; chapel-goers don't ring bells, but nobody likes to contradict my great-grandwicher on this point. She was horn a great-grandmother on this point. She was born a Roman Catholic and gave up her religion to marry a Methodist ironstone miner. He had fathered five children and then suddenly, and with that lack of consideration for his wife for which Northern men are infamous, he died. In later years, the loss of her religion had made my great-granny bitter. I'm not sure if she thought she was destined for hell, but the warmth of her house suggested she was preparing for it.

After her husband died great-granny worked as a cook and a caretaker and took in washing. She and her children were always smart, her house was immaculate. "There are two types of working class," my great-grandmother would opine, "respectable working class and rough working class. We are respectable working class." She didn't say who was rough working class. Because her son-in-law, my grandfather, was in the room and she wanted to spare his feelings.

My grandfather leaned with his back against the wall over by the door to the scullery. He stood in the same place every time he went to great-grandmother's house. There was an oval stain where he rested his head and his Brylcreem had soaked into

wayward locks were ruthlessly dealt with. He went to a barber called Jack Hyde.



Cut it till it bleeds," he would reply.

My grandfather was fastidious about all aspects of his appearance. To watch him putting on a trench coat - the tucks beneath the belt arranged equidistantly, each fold of matching size, the flare calibrated to a microscopie tolerance - was to witness a major feat of precision engineering; when he said he was going to shave you did not expect to see him for at least an hour; polishing a pair of.

shoes was the work of a morning.
Sometimes when paddling with him in the sea at Redcar or Whitby I would catch him looking down. Passers-by might suspect he had spotted something interesting in the water, but I knew he was actually checking to see that his trouser legs were evenly rolled.

The bottoms of my grandfather's trousers were subject to particular attention. It was not uncommon for him to buy a pair and ask the tailor to turn them up a quarter of an incb. As a youngster my grandfather's idol had been his cousin, Gilbert, a trooper in the 17th Lancers. On summer days Gilbert swam in the river Tees at Yarm. A ladies' man, he kept his bowler hat on while in the water, so that he could tip it to any women out strolling along the bank.

My grandfather was rough working class because he came from a broken home. When he was a teenager his father ran away with another woman. Having little appetite for travel he didn't run far. Just around the corner to the next street, in fact. On the day of the departure, my grandfather came home to find his brothers. Joe and George, sitting on the front step with faces like fiddles. "Dad's buggered off," Joe said.

"Well, that's nothing to cry about," my grandad, who didn't have a high regard for his father, replied. "I'm not bothered about him going," Joe said. "It's just that he took the three-piece suite with him and

now we've nowt to sit on." They remedied the situation later that night:

ren, at the onset of winter she would smear their chests with goose grease and sew them into their vests. She cut them loose when the hawthorn blossomed. I can imagine the smell that must have erupted as the stitches were unpicked, although I try very hard not to.

Uncle George was my granddad's younger brother. When his teeth fell out he made his own dentures from steel plate. Once when he was walking along the beach at Salthurn a wind had blown up and George got sand in his mouth. Walking up

The evening will climax when my grandmother, fortified by cold tea wine, does her party piece, tucking her skirt into her knickers and turning somersaults while singing 'Swanee River'

asked. "Yes, thank you, Father," George said, "I'm just looking for my teeth."

My grandfather tells this story now. My grandmother and her three sisters laugh. The sisters live together. They are dog lovers. They have a nervous mongrel terrier named Scrap. Once the doctor had come to visit one of them who was siek. The sisters were often sick. Illness was their bobby. It was diverse, fascinating and cheap. This day the Doctor left his new homburg on the stand in the hall. When he came back he found Scrap had pulled it down and ripped it to shreds. The doctor was angry, the sisters were horrified. "Fancy," they said. "An educated man like him leaving his

they said. "An educated man like firm leaving ms hat where a dog could get it."

The sisters' laughter is drowned by a strange, gurgling cackle which sounds like the noise our Hoover makes when it sucks up one of my toys by accident. The source is two elderly and wild-looking women whose relationship to our family is so tenuous and labyrinthine that only a creature of higher intelligence (ic Auntie Nora) could possibly unravel it. They came from one of the ironsone mining villages of east Cleveland - isolated communities on the edge of the North Yorkshire Moors. Weird places. The nearest thing in Britain to the hillbilly towns of the Appalachians.

Years later I would work in a pub in nearby Guisborough. The pub had a function room and a dance on Saturday nights. One week the regular band couldn't play so the owner hired a piano player who'd been recommended to him by the window cleaner.

The piano player had greasy hair and a dinner-jacket so baggy it looked as if it had been designed to be worn over a rueksaek. Febrile menace flickered in his eyes. He played well enough, at first, plinking and plonking merrily through "The Saint Bernard Waltz" and "The Dashing White Sergeant". Then an agoing teddy boy's moll with hair the texture of candy floss requested some rock 'n' roll. The pianist launched into "Great Balls Of Fire". By the time he reached the second chorus

The bowling pianist eame from east Cleveland. The east Cleveland relations' mother smoked a clay pipe. They dressed in dark clothes and had powerful religious beliefs based on a mixture of Nonconformism, spiritualism and strong drink. Once the phone rang at home and when my mother answered it, one of the older of the east Cleveland women said, "Did you know Bobby Garbutt was dead?"

My mother said she didn't, which was hardly surprising as she hadn't the faintest idea who Bohby Garbutt was, "Well," the woman said, "to be hon-est I only found out myself this morning. When I woke up he was standing at the end of the bed ask-ing why I hadn't been at his funeral."

Afterwards my mother had to have a whisky to calm her nerves. Coming into my great-granny's house today, she had seen them and with forced enthusiasm cried, "Oh! I didn't know you two were here!" And behind me I heard my grandfather muner, "I thought the pair of broomsticks parked outside might have alerted you."

Now the younger of the east Cleveland relations

is talking about the home-made cold tea wine she has brought. They have made it in a tin bath in an outhouse. At the mention of drink my father decides it is time to leave. He has been to enough of these things before to know how it will end. Alcohol will prise open old wounds and there will be rows and tears, followed by reconciliation and sentimental songs. The evening will climax when my grandmother, fortified by cold tea wine, and egged on by her sisters, does her party piece; tucking her skirt into her knickers and turning somersaults, while singing "Swance River".

We gather up our coats. I kiss my great-granny, my grandmother, my aunts, and lastly and reluctantly, the women from east Cleveland, whose skins scuff like suede hrushes. We say goodbye. As we leave I can hear Uncle Tommy saying, "Some Sat-urdays we'd have had 15 pints by the time we got to the dance hall. They wouldn't let you in if you were drunk. We are mints and stood close together to stop ourselves swaying. Some nights I've got in that dance, gone straight in the gents, locked myself in a cuhicle and sat there for the rest of the evening, clutching the edge of the toilet with my knuckles going white, just to stop the room spinning." I hear his wistful chuckle, "Hey, great days, great days," he says and then the door closes.

me and George with an armchair and by settled on a barber called Jack Hyde. "What can I do for you today," Hyde would say. "What can I do for you today," Hyde would say. "When the brothers were child "When the section his sleeves up and stuck his hands and sank "George rolled his A bright spark. Born in a stall. No kidding

Bill Greenwell and DJ Taylor rewrite seasonal tales as today's authors might have told them

Carol Ann Duffy: Once in Royal David's City

It was in that city. You could see that David had been there, right royal except for drizzle on the paving. Evening like dull pain. Stranger. Manger. Straw for the mother to deliver a message from heaven. The poor, the mean, and the moody. She was Mary, and the kid arriving at half-seven.

Christ. Jesus. Messiah. His new skin crinkling in starlight. The local oxen paddled their tongues by the crib, dunking their thick heads in shadow. It was holy all right. You could taste the dew in his ducts, hear his gurgle like a broken tap. His maiden mother was as genile as Carnation. Or Lux.

Birth was a redemption, a revelation of good. Ace, Perfect. Brill. Bright. Love. Paith. The whisper of a child is like the rustle of feed. You look on and this is no playpen, no stable. Weak and helpless. No, he was going

up in the world. Angel. A bright spark born in a stall. God's gift. No kidding.

Anthony Powell: A Christmas Carol

24 Dec. Marley obit. Contrary to various statements that have appeared in the press, I was not in fact at Eton with Jacob Marley (financier, descended through his mother's side from the Somerset Marleys) - he KS, four years older than I, Benson's. Never the less, we saw a good deal of one another in the post-Oxford period.

Marley always seemed good example of capable husiness figure, while displaying not the smallest interest in arts. Business now supposed to have devolved on associate Scrooge (possible ramification of Devonshire Scrooges? - for some reason nothing in *Debrea*) whom V says we once met at some gathering of City types, tho' can't recall. By all accounts, formidable

25 Dec. Dined with Cratchits, distant connexions of V's (on mother's side,

possibly descendants of Suffolk Cratchytte offshoot). Goose. Trimmings. Plum pudding. Gin – perfectly drinkable (I did not see label). Cratchit nice, obsequious, elerkish type. Grace (after meal, surely solecism?) pronounced by Cratchit's younger son, Timothy, unassuming child. Heaven knows how little susceptible to "cuteness" in the young, but both V and I by no means unaffected.

AS Byatt: St Luke's Gospel (chapter 2) It might begin:

The stable lies dank, fecund and welcoming. Two oxen with calm liquid eyes stare gravely on. In a corner, an ass stirs. There is a crib, of course, and a hook for a lantern. Hens scavenge restlessly through the straw. Alone in the pale, delicate, timeless light, the child sings his limited lovely note. Why does this elemental tableau, this quintessence of burnt residue scraped from the mythological crucible,

Or it might begin with Joseph and Mary travelling by donkey along the Judaean

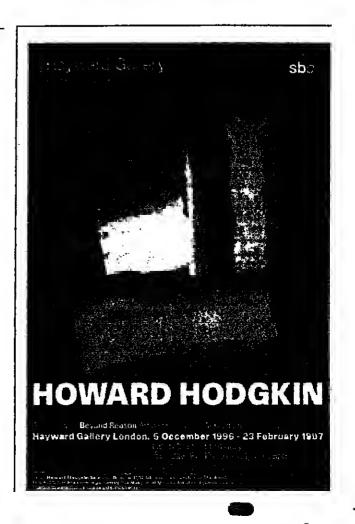
hack roads. Joseph's thoughts buzz around him like clouds of locusts. He thinks of the angel Gabriel, is moved by the automatic power of myth, then repelled by caution. The myth is too big, too easy, too much for his unborn child. He must be oblique.

Mary sits astride the donkey. She has not. so far, complained. Now she says: "Joseph. Joseph. Please listen to me. Please listen. When all this is over, when it is finished, when it is complete, I must have something to do. I must have something to do."

He is surprised, startled, taken ahack. "But you are the mother of our Saviour." "I know. But my iconic significance is

appalling. It is appalling."

Or it might begin within the walls of blood and muscle, the dense accumulations of flesh and protoplasm, within the womh. That unborn heart, imminent and immanent, Blood, Ohlation, Sacrifice. Those words are ancestors knew. Of such are their myths, and our own. The baby stirs and twists. Language is within him. The words crackle along his pre-partuitive



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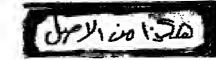
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travel & outdoors

Where to go in 1997.....8/9 Austria's hotels for families.....11



Photograph: G Fischer/Network

Every possible shade of green

Simon-Calder meanders through Dominica's vibrant rainforests in the company of parrots and hummingbirds

ou can tell a place has become a big new des-tination when travel agency staff start abbre-grey Caribbean sky. viating the name – as they have just started to do with the Dom Rep. Visitors love the place, and the locals love the visitors. It is one of the greatest tourism success stories in the Caribbean, enjoying a boom in arrivals as news spreads of miraculous beaches and minuscule prices.

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OP DECK

All of which is highly unfortunate for the island I have just visited, Dominica. These lines refer to an entirely different destination. Touristically, the Dominican Republic is doing splendidly well - while anyone who has anything to do with tourism in Dominica is probably looking at this page in trepidation; on the last occasion there was a story on the lesser Antilles, a helpful map was included, showing full details of the Dom Rep. No: this is Dominica.

"No" is the word that recurs among the gracious, gentle islanders when they speak to visitors. And talk they do, with relish, emphasising all that is positive about Dominica.

No. we have no significant violent crime, I was told shortly before Christmas. In the same week, the number of murders on the island of Jamaica exceeded the 1995 total, with an average of two deaths per day. No, we have not sold out to tourism. If you want

mile upon mile of high-rise hotels lined up along a beach, try somewhere else. And there is a very good reason for that: No, we have no beaches. That, you discover eventually, is not quite cor-rect. But the few patches of sand, mostly volcanic, are nothing to write postcards about. The only swim I enjoyed was from a river beach, where families picnic beneath benignly sprawling rainforest. Dominica has nothing to do with palm-fringed golden sands (of the kind you might find in, say, the Dom Rep). It is instead a heroic crumple of stone that erupted from a fragile patch of the

Grey is not a colour that the travel industry promotes, particularly in the context of skies. But on Dominica it is a regular reality - a consequence of the collision between Atlantic air, heavy with moisture, and the highest mountains in the east-

Yet you will search in vain for evidence of gloom. The colours on Dominica are as intense as the most frantic afternoon downpour. The furious rainfall - four times as heavy as in Britain - conspires with the rich, red soil to invent startling tones of yellow, garnished with abrupt flashes of scarlet. All this takes place against a background that explores every possible shade of green.

Echoes of this anarchic colour scheme appear on every street in the capital, Roseau. The city if that is not too bold a term to use for somewhere so motley – is rambling towards dilapidation. So the pinks and blues applied randomly to spare sur-faces in Roseau are washed to a pale pastel.

Dominica's national institutions are crammed into awkward new concrete blocks and elegant old villas. To pick up a copy of the only good map of the island, for example, you must seek out the Department of Lands and Surveys. This ministry resides in a freshly painted clapperboard office that sprouts from a field on the fringe of Roseau. While you wait for your change, an official explains that this was originally part of the Rose's estate.

Rose's grew on the lavish lime plantations that

clung to the terraced footbills. In the days when Dominica was one of the British Empire's more irrelevant appendages, its prime function was to supply lime jnice for the Navy. Eventually, better nutrition and artificial substitutes meant that the industry was eradicated as surely as scurvy. So limes

went the way of vanilla, another one-crop wonder. For reassurance that the island can coax a liv-Earth's crust. Today it seems frozen in mid-ing from the rumpled terrain, follow the citizens



to the Saturday morning market in Roseau. Barrows are heaped high with fruits of little labour: bananas and coconuts, passion fruit and paw-paw, even the odd recalcitrant lime.

The energetic faces of the traders and shoppers testify to the extravagant ethnic mix of the Dominicans. If you wondered how the Caribbean got its name, the answer is in the bright eyes and sharp features of the people of Carib descent. When Europeans overran the region and began to exploit it, the Caribs retreated to Dominica. A few thousand of them have endured disease and decline to survive in a corner of the island, and their blood has spread widely across the population. Added to the cultural cocktail are several generous measures of Africa, plus dashes of old colonials and Irish adventurers; there is a lot more red hair than you

would expect, dancing through the market. Given the good-natured crush in the aisles, you

judge that the rest of this isle of 70,000 souls must

It isn't, of course, though solitude is an easy commodity to procure hereabouts. What really gets you when you escape the crowds is the silence: there isn't any. If you're after peace and tranquillity, you're in the wrong place. Yattering parrots bicker with shrill hummingbirds to see who can deafen the visitor most adroitly. Breezes swish through the impossibly tall palms, and with persistence bring coconuts crashing down. Fortu-nately, the fall is more often interrupted by suc-

culent vegetation than by a tourist's head. That's because there are so few of us. While the inhabitants of nearby Antigua are outnumbered seven to one by the annual number of visitors, in Dominica the residents are firmly in the majority. One reason is the airport: that patch of Tarmac just north of the capital isn't a car park, but the landing strip for Canefield airport. The biggest plane you can arrive in holds 30 people.

The island is on the cruiseship circuit, and from next May it will be a port of call for Thomson holidaymakers. But a day trip is almost a disservice to an island whose soul resides high in the hills or hidden beneath thick undergrowth in one of the 365 rivers that (allegedly) irrigate the island. You, and Dominica, deserve better than a few snatched

hours together.
You deserve to experience the air in idle isolation. I wish I could share it with you - feeling. smelling, tasting each sweet, warm breath, heavy with the moisture from a million trees.

On an island little larger than the Isle of Wight, choosing a highlight is like selecting a gem from a sackful of diamonds. But on a warm and steamy island, the jewel has to be a hot and humid hike to the Boiling Lake.

My inclination for any such jaunt is to take the

bus (in Dominica's case, a hattered old minihus) as far along the way as possible. Yet this drops comedian Arthur Smith in Antigua.

you five miles frum your destination - with the large matter of a 3,000-ft mountain, plus a connivance of thick, sticky mud to impede your

Nature opens her bid with a dense rainforest canopy, where flora writhes for light. Then, with attitude, you see why some call Dominica "a tropical Scotland" - rugged mnuntainsides splashed with tenacious grasses and modest moss.

Then signs of life are, literally, dissolved. The Valley of Desolation is fearsomely appropriate in its name, a seething vale where sulphurous waters and vapours bleed constantly from the earth.

This is merely a warning salvo for the day adventurer. Another hour of aching muscles lifts you to a window on the centre of the world. The ground suddenly vanishes, and you almost topple into a cauldron that looks a darn sight higger than the airport. Two things will stop you from resting here: the harsh steam that marches across the surface. concealing the simmering more often than not; and the urgency to descend, ur meet your end in the mnuntains in the dark.

Darkness doesn't simply sidle into Dominica; like an uninvited guest at a Christmas party, the night slams, clumsily, into the existence you were enjoying. So you slip into a decaying old hotel for a drink. Over a hogmanay-sized dose of Dominican rum, got talking to the proprietor. There's trouble with the Dom Rep, he mourned. The country is threatening to change its name: tn Dominicana.

The closest convenient big airport to Dominica is Antigua, which has regular flights from Gatwick. From Antigua, LLAT flies several times daily to Cane-

Simon Calder's report from Dominica for a 'Travel Show Caribbean special, is to be shown on 1 Jun-uary on BBC2 at Spin. The programme also features the actress Amanda Redman in Puerto Rico and the

The fewer bottles of inflammable liquid flying around Europe, the better

beer and hicycles? Scrooge flight." Crew would be hit, as well would be all in favour of the Euro- as passengers: "Across the whole pean Union's initiative to remove of its network, Britannia estiduty-free allowances in 1999. And

I am afraid that I am, too. On I July 1999, the EU will remove the right to buy 200 cigarettes and a few litres of booze free of duty and VAT when travelling from Britain to one of the other 14 memher countries. The alarms are already being raised. Take Britain's higgest charter airline, Britannia. My flight tickets for a charter from Gatwick have just arrived, but they were hard to locate in the ticket wallet, such was the flurry of duty-free

If the EU's plan goes through, we are told, in-flight standards will fall at once: "The airline would immed- tions in the report intrigued me, about the propaganda from the precious plastic bags of liquor and town. If you stay here you'll get

umbugs incur VAT at the iately reduce its cabin crew comusual rate, so why shuuldn't plement by one on each intra-EU mates that more than 200 jobs ... would be lost."

And did yon know that, oo average, each cabin crew member earns £1,500 per year in commission on duty-free sales?

This is according to a new survey by Coopers & Lybrand, commissioned by Manchester airport. But Britannia says cutting staff is just one of many options that is heing considered. Before inspectors from the Inland Rev- the result of transferring £35m enue get involved, Britannia says worth of sales elsewhere. Yet this image of the British Airtours 737 the earnings by cabin crew is actuthe earnings by cabin crew is actually £1,200.

Other statements and assump-



too. A total of 680 people in the North West would lose their johs as a result of the ending of duty-frees, single extra joh in the High Street. I think we have to be careful

duty-free industry. Costs of travel tobacco. This happened at Man-will certainly rise after 1999, hut ehester airport, which is now so want to concentrate on providing safe, efficient travel rather than selling stuff, that is fine with me. Hoverspeed, for example, boosted pre-Christmas sales by offering a mountaio bike for £75, and for the same again you could buy 24 gallons of Ruddles. Try balaocing that on your handlebars.

More seriously, there is ao important safety consideration in cutting duty-free sales for air travellers: the fewer bottles of highly inflammable liquid that are flying around Europe, the hetter. The image of the British Airtours 737 of the Boeing still clutching their

if ferry operators and airlines forcibly pushing the case for selling hese pages aim to inspire and

inform. Marilyn Lloyd of Swansea writes to say a recent story oo New York's Hudsoo River Valley inspired her, but she felt the informatioo misdirected her.

"It is possible to travel from Grand Central as well as Penn Station to Poughkeepsie. In fact, it is quite a lot cheaper - \$10 instead of \$17". Seven bucks hetter off. Ms Lloyd disembarked at this Hudson River settlement. Then she wished she hadn't.

"The station master warned us: vivors escaping from the wreckage 'This is no place for tourists. It's a tough, violent town, a frontier rohhed nr shot.' So we took hour's stay there. his advice and caught the next traio to Cold Spring, and dis- Central Station, New York. overlooking the Hudson, with day. Such a contrast in such a night B&B. We enjoyed an Manhattan."

covered an extremely pretty. Yes, the train journey is (but expensive and twee) town delightful and we enjoyed our one lovely, old hotel, The short space of time (75 min-Hudson House - \$150 per utes) to the skyscrapers of



Cycle through Morocco, eat Welsh cakes in Patagonia,



Journey south: take advantage of discount air fares to Australia in April for Anzac Day, and stand beneath Sydney Harbour bridge to watch the sun go down

JANUARY

Britain: If you need a break after the pressures of Christmas, take yourself off to one of the three British Center Parcs (0990 200300). Here you can pamper yourself with a health treatment and burn up the calories. A typical three-night break this month would cost between £164-£205 for two and this includes accommodation and use of the pool (but all other facilities are charged separately). If you're over 50, the cheapest way to get there is with National Express (0990 010104) who are offering a "go anywhere in Britain for £9.99 return" fare between 6 January and 13 February. Europe: Thessaloniki, Cultural Capital of Europe 1997, is featured in the Independent Magazine next Saturday. Visit the Greek hirthplace of Atatürk, the father of the Turks, and start your year on a cultural footing. For details of events throughout the year contact the Greek National Tourism Organisation on 0171-734 5997.

Worldwide: Celebrate Ramadan on 10 January on a Jasmin Tours (01628 531121) holiday. Between 10 January and 9 Fehruary the company is offering special trips to see the lights in various Middle Eastern cities. If you haven't bad your fill over the Christmas period they will even provide you with festive food, including Iftar – a special breakfast. Feast yourself after sunset and spend the next day working it all back nff again. Prices start at £349 for six nights' B&B (not including airport taxes and visas) at Aqaba on the shores of the Red Sea.

Other dates for your diary:

Other dates for your diary:
20 President Clinton inaugurated in Washington
31 Jan-2 Feb The Snnwboard World Cup in Quebec
31 Schubert's 200th anniversary in Austria

Britain: Go to work on an egg, with an

egg-decorating holiday from HF Holidays (0181-905 9558). A four-

night holiday in Malhamdale in the

FEBRUARY

Lake District costs £179 per person including full board, instruction and your basic egg kir. After a morning spent learning how to transform a humble egg into a "fine and beautiful ornament" you are free to stride out and explore the local area. Europe: Take advantage of the cool weather and cycle through the Draa Valley in Morocco with The tmaginative Traveller (0t81-742 8612). This off-road cycling tour is new for 1997 and only operates between January and April. For £525 you get accommodation (some of it camping). most meals, hicycle hire, transportation of luggage while you cycle, and the services of a cook. What ii doesn't include is the flight out, but if you're really keen you could always cycle down through Europe and take the ferry across from Spain. Worldwide: Between 2 and 5 February Copacabana is the focus for a huge festival - the Fiesta de la Virgen de Candelaria. This isn't the Copacabana where Barry Manilow fell in love, but a small, bright town on the Bolivian shore of Lake Titicaca. Pilgrims and dancers from all over Bolivia and Peru fill its streets, climb up the 14 stations of the cross overlooking the lake, drink, ear and are merry chasing bulls round a sinne corral. Other dates for your diary: 6 Chinese New Year 11 Shrove Tuesday (and Mardi Gras in

MARCH

New Orleans and Rio)

(01970 617995) all month.

Britain: If you don't fancy the coast at this time of year, head for London instead. The 28 March sees the opening of the London Aquarium (0171-011 3433) at the old County

The Aberystwyth Indian Fuod Festival

sbark as you pass through the aquatic landscape constructed around the 30,000 exhibits. Prices will be £4.50 for children and £6.50 for adults with family tickets for £20. Europe: Alton Towers' Spanish sister, Port Aventura (00 34 77 77 9090) on the north-east Spanisb coast, opens a new white-knuckle ride, Stampida, on 17 March. This will be the first twintrack wooden rollercoaster in the world, and the 80ft drops should all add to that "out of control" feeling the promoters are aiming for. The park is based around five different areas from the Mediterranean to Imperial China. Entrance is around £21 for adults and £16.40 for childreo, and the park is open between 17 March and 26 October from 10am to 8pm (midnight between June and September). Worldwide: Go for the alternative Welsh experience and spend the first day of the month. St David's Day, eating Welsh cakes in Patagonia. This is the best time of year to visit the wilder parts of southern South America, but if you're expecting summer to be hot you'll be underdressed. The Chuhut valley in Argentina is perilously hanging on to its Welsh roots. In Gaiman they still produce a Welsh language newspaper and traditional Welsh teas are served in the shops but the Williams' are

Hall oo the South Bank. Stroke a

stingray, peer at a piranha or stare at a

and traditional Welsh teas are served in the shops but the Williams' are becoming prefixed by Miguels and Juans rather than Dais and Ifors. There is plenty to see but if it all seems just too adventurous you could always sit back in St David's, Pembrokeshire, with a copy of Hank Wangford's Lost Cowboys and imagine yourself on the gaucho trail instead. Other dates for your diary: 8 International Women's Day

17 St Patrick's Day
26 Independence Day Bangladesh
28-8 Dec William Wallace 700th
Anniversary Exhibition in Stirling
29 Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race
30 Easter Sunday and the start of
British Summer Time

APRIL

Britain: Lancashire is where the action is in April because that's where the Southport Clowns Festival is being held. Between 24 and 27 April there will be a gaggle of clowns running up and down Southport's pier (the first to be built purely for pleasure in Britain) and around the grand villas of Lord Street, Details from Clowns International on 0t81-444 8406. Europe: According to Eurostar (0345 303030), you will by now be able to travel direct from Preston to Paris or from Birmingham to Brussels. They have promised us this for almost as long as the service has been up and running, so we are not holding our breath. Those travelling from destinations in the east of the country will have to wait until the summer if all

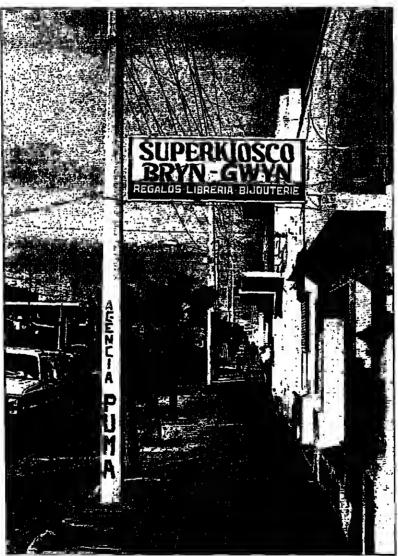
Worldwide: April 25 is Anzac Day so commemorate it by taking advantage of Austravel's 1017t-734 7755) discount fares in Sydney between 16 April and 30 June. For £623 including departure taxes and the £2 Sydney noise levy you can travel to Sydney and back nn BA or Qantas and stop over twice along the way. Ynu can choose from Rome, Bali, Bangkok, Hnng Kong, Frankfurt and Kuala Lumpur and for an extra £55 you can increase the number of stopovers to four. The climate isn't at its best at this time of year but the attractions will be less busy and, if it's a tan you're after, you can top it up in Bali on the way home. Other dates for your diary: 27 Greek Orthodox Easter 18 Opening of Millennium Celehration in Gdansk

MAY

Britain: Tease those green fingers down in the Garden of England by visiting Christies Garden Festival (01580

Where to go in '97

By Rhiannon Batten



Go west: eat Welsh cakes in Patagonia on St David's Day

211702) in Kent. Between 24 May and 1 June a number of privately owned gardens will be opened to the public. The 26 May is also St Augustine's Day and, as 1997 is the 1400th anniversary of the arrival of St Augustine in Canterbury, this is the year to stay in Kent and enjoy some of the special events being offered. Try Pat-a-Lamb at Mount Ephraim Gardens (01227 751496) or visit the National Fruit Collection at Brogdale Orchard near Faversham (01795 535286). Visit on

the 10th or 11th and you'll catch the Blossom and Flower Festival.

Europe: The Pénichette, a barge-lover's favourite, is 20 years old this year, so climb aboard one and celebrate with a boating trip down one of France's rivers with French Country Cruises (01572 821330). A week in a Pénichette in May would cost £889 for four people including all equipment and bedding hut not fuel. Alternatively head further south to the Camargue.

At Les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, the

annual festival on 24-25 May swamps the town.

Worldwide: Taking place only on oddnumbered years, Kanda Mitsuri happens in Tokyo in mid-May, on the Saturday and Sunday closest to the 15 May. It's a traditional Shinto festival. where 200 portable mikoshi - or shrines - are heaved through the streets by sake swigging crowds. And there are other celebrations - archery contests, borse riding and dancing to name but a few. For information on Japan, contact the Japan National Tourist Office on 0171-734 9638 and for flights (this is generally a good time to travel) try Quest Worldwide (0181-5473322). It has a flight on BA or Quantas for £640 return, including taxes, to Australia. It allows you a stopover in Bangkok or Singapore on the way out and a stopover in Tokyo on the way back. This is much cheaper than a ticket just to Tokyo and back. Other dates for your diary: 7-19 Cannes Film Festival 20-23 Chelsea Flower Show

Britain: Visit Glasgow in 1997 to see

how it's preparing for the role of 1999 UK City of Architecture and Design.

Go hetween 27 June and 6 July and catch the International Jazz Festival

JUNE

(0141-552 3552) or just browse around the city's museums and art galleries, not forgetting the Rennie Mackintosh designs. Glasgow Tourist Information is on 0141-204 4400. Europe: 12 June is Russian Independence Day and a national holiday but if you stay in St Petersburg until the summer solstice on 21 June, through to 11 July, the city lets loose for the White Nights celebrations - the main festive period of the year. With permanent daylight, people work themselves into a frenzy, especially on the Neva embankment. Here people crowd the banks to watch the nearby bridges opening up in the middle of the night, and you'll probably have to dodge flying champagne corks as they do so. It's also a big cultural event with ballets, concerts and plays happening all over the city. The two main festivals during this time are the rock festival and the classical Stars of the White Nights. Contact the Russian Tourist Agency on 0171-486 0586. Worldwide: Be in Hong Kong at midnight oo 30 June to witness its banding back to Chinese rule. If you have time to stay for a while, book early and arrive by the 14 June to see the Dragon Boat Races in the harbour. This commemorates Chu Yuan, a third-century BC poet who threw himself into a river in Hunan Province in protest at the corruption of the government. Onlookers raced to save him in their boats but they were too slow. These days the onlookers throw dumplings into the water to keep the fish from eating him. The Hong Kong Tourist Association (0171-930 4775) will have more details. Other dates for your diary:

JULY

17-20 Royal Ascot

23-6 July Wimbledon

Britain: The Lady Lever Art Gallery at Port Sunlight (0151-478 4136), about an hour's drive from Manchester, is worth a visit at any time of year, but especially in the summer. Lord Leverhulme built the gallery in memory of his wife following the construction of his model community around his famous soap factory. The gallery houses an impressive collection of Pre-Raphaelite works alongside a collection of Wedgwood. Europe: Why not head out to New England from Manchester stopping off to see the Northern Lights on the way? Icelandair (through the Airline Network on 0800 727747) has return flights from Manchester to Boston for £396 including tax (plus £10 if you travel at a weekend) in July. With this ticket you can stay in Reykjavik for up

to three nights, which will give you just enough time to stare at a geyser, slip on a glacier, plunge into a hot spring and grab a glance at the famous lights - if the sky is clear while you're there. Worldwide: Get to New England for American Independence Day on 4 July. The Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival (413 243 0745) bas been going ever since a man called Ted founded it in his barn in 1932, and it's now become one of the most important dance events in the States. It runs between mid-June and early September in the village of Becket in Massachusetts. Nearby, the Boston Symphony Orchestra has a summer coocert series at Tanglewood. Alternatively you could keep cool with an ice-cream from the bome of Ben & Jerry's at Waterbury in Vermont. The story goes that Ben and Jerry were childhood friends who sent off for a booklet telling them how to make icecream. They found they bad a flair for introducing the locals to wacky flavours and bave since heen filling people's freezers across the Atlantic. Other dates for your diary: 2 Palio in Siena 2-6 Henley Royal Regatta 5-27 Tour de France

AUGUST

Britain: Pretend you're the outdoor type, but do it the easy way with the new Wye Valley Walk which Acorn Activities (01432 830083) is organising for 1997. You can stride out during the day and enjoy the views free from the weight of baggage (which is transported along the route for you) and safe in the knowledge of a good bed for the night (at either a hotel or a B&B). To cover the whole walk would take 14 days hut shorter sections or taking days out along the way can be arranged. A typical three-night package costs £270 per person. Time your walk around the 17-22 of the month and you can combine it with the Three Chnirs Festival taking place in Hereford. Europe: Even though Munich's

Oktoberfest begins in September, go to Bavaria in August and aspire to higher things with a stein or two of beer in Kulmbach, which is credited with both brewing the most beer in Bavaria, and drinking it. Up until the 15th century, citizens of this beerdrinkers' paradise were able to brew their own beer and, as you might expect, they know a thing or two about production. The main beer festival is the nine-day long Beer Week between July and August but go easy on the Kulminator 28 - not a Schwarzenegger film, but probably the strongest beer in the world. To find out the exact dates contact the local tourist information centre nearer the time (00 49 9221 95880) or the German Tourist Office (0891 600100). Worldwide: One of the best bargains in

air travel has just become several degrees better. The unlimited travel airpasses offered by Canadian Regional Airlines (through AirPass Sales, 01737 555300) now offer a preposterous range of destinations. The ooe-week East Pass (£145) gives you unlimited standby flights from Boston, USA 10 Gander in Newfoundland, and from Halifax across to Winnipeg. Here you can pick up the parallel West Pass, and continue to Seattle, Vancouver and Calgary. Best value of all is the £299, three-week national pass that entitles you to cover the entire country.

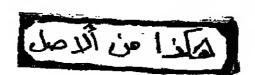
Other dates for your diary: 1-10 World Athletics Championships in Athens

10-30 Edinburgh Festival 14 Independence Day in Pakistan 15 Indian Independence Day 16 Palio, Siena

24, 25 August, Notting Hill Carnival

SEPTEMBER

Britain: On the 8 and 9 September, Oxford shuts off one of its main streets



see the Northern Lights, and walk in the Wye valley

for two days to hold its traditional St Giles Fair. These days there are just as many gut-wrenching, neon-coloured rides as there are hoop-la stalls, but it's all great fun, anyway. The best time to go is in the evening, so you can spend the day taking in the architecture, cringing at the shrunken heads in the Pitt Rivers Museum or sitting in one of the pubs enjoying a pint. Oxford Tourist Information is on 01865 726871. Europe: Go to Futuroscope (0171-499 8049 for information) in September when it's less suffocated by rampaging schoolchildren, and enjoy its geometric

The Land Land Market

huildings, feats of aquatic sculpture and array of celluloid options without the bassle of the queues. Easily reached from Poitiers, this cinematie and scientific theme park is definitely worth a visit in 1997. Worldwide: Visit South Africa in springtime. Flower lovers should head

for Namaqualand in the north-east comer of the Northern Cape. The valley floor gets submerged beneath a covering of huge orange daisies, and the mountainsides are a mass of pinks, scarlets, blues and yellows. To find out where the blooms are nearer the time, call the Flower Hotline (00 27 21

Other dates for your diary: 27-5 October, Oktoberfest, Munich

OCTOBER

2000

June Buckey to B

一 化热热放射

AUGUST

Britain: Avoid the crowds and visit the island of lona during the autumn. This year marks the 1,400th anniversary of the death of St Columba here, so during the summer months the place will probably be heaving with people. For details of special St Columba events contact Oban Tourist Information Centre 01631 563122. Europe: Gdansk celebrates its 1,000th

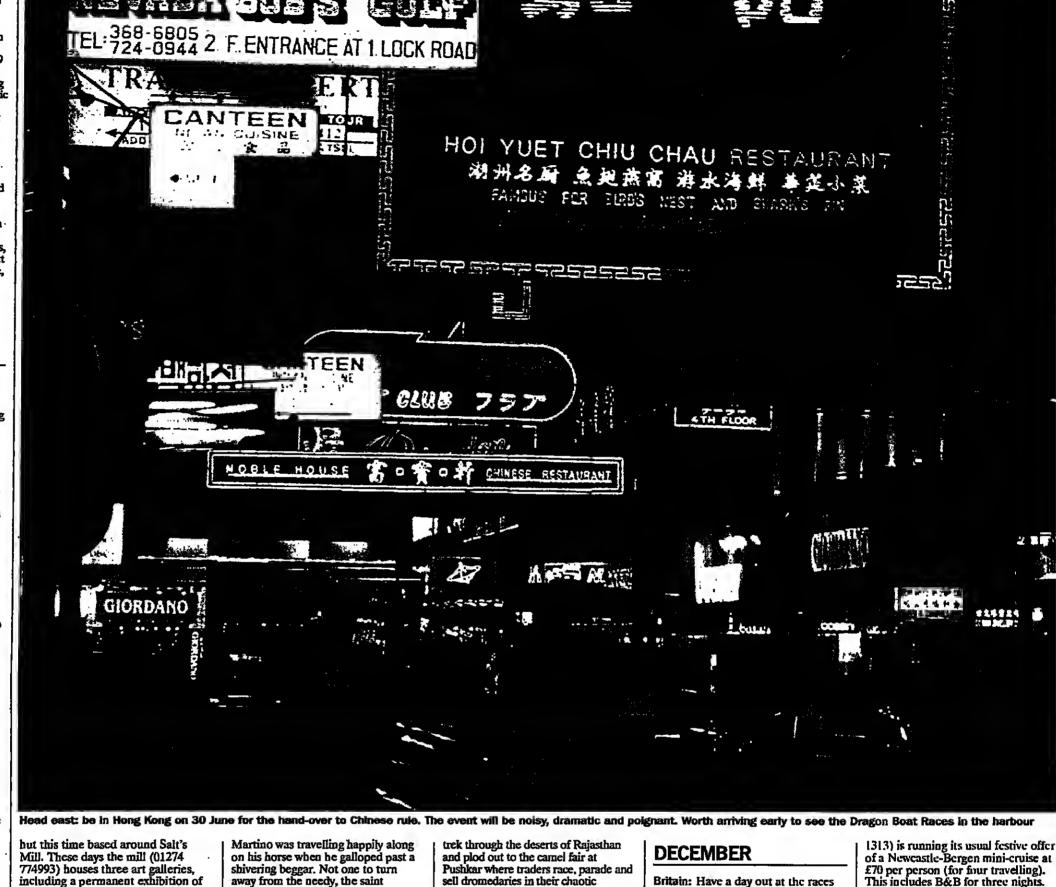
birthday this year. If you go to Poland between April and November you can go along to one of the special arts, sports or philosophical events the town is planning. Alternatively, wait for the half-term break and go across for the official closing on 31 October. This year LOT, the Polish airline (0171-580 5037), is introducing direct flights from Gatwick to Kraków five times a week, and from Manchester to Warsaw three times a week. For connecting flights to Gdansk it will save you around £50 each way if you huy your ticket when you arrive in Poland. Polish Tourist Information is

Worldwide: If you venture across to Nepal in October, try to time this with Tihaar (known as Diwali in India) towards the end of the month - dates have yet to be fully fixed. The "festival of lights" lasts for five days, the third of which sees houses decked out with hundreds of candles and oil lamps in the hope of attracting Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. The rest of the time animals are strewn with garlands and the children race round throwing firecrackers and giving tika, or blessings, to their siblings. If you've got the time, trek up in the Annapurnas, get your fill of dhal baat in Bhaktapur, jump in the river at Bhiretanti and raft down the Sun Kosi before heading back to live it up for a while in Kathmandu.

Other dates for your diary: 2 Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) 26 British Summer Time ends

NOVEMBER

Britain: If you enjoyed Port Sunlight in July go for Saltaire, near Bradford, in November, another model village



774993) houses three art galleries, including a permanent exhibition of works by David Hockney. On the way home, find out whether Huddersfield really is set to take off as the new clubbing capital of the UK, with a night out at Babalonia in Beyond Beach Babylon, or go along to The Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival (01484 425082) between 19 and 30 November. Europe: Autumn is a good time to

visit Tuscany and Umbria. On 11 November in Sigillo, near Perugia, take part in the San Martino Festival where the events centre around drinking lots of wine and eating chestnuts. The legend goes that

away from the needy, the saint promptly gave the beggar his enormous cloak and since then the countryside has been shrouded in warmth for a few days each November. The festival is celebrated all over Italy but Sigilio is the place to do it in style. While you're there don't miss the frescoes by a local painter, Matteo da Gualdo, in the village ehurch. The Italian Tourist Office is on 0171-408 1254. Worldwide: It is worth missing the 50th anniversary celebrations for Indian

independence (see August) and waiting until now. The climate is at its mildest at

this time of year. Try a romantic camel

and the Underground. (The

Nigeria: Violent street crime

prevalent in Lagos and occur

Rough Guide to England)

and armed robberies are

Harassment by policemen

and soldiers is common

throughout the country.

Travel outside cities after

dark is upsafe; even in

daylight armed hold-ups

to be met at the airport and

(Foreign Office Travel Advice

taken to their destination.

elsewhere in Nigeria.

Tourist Office (0171 437 3677) for Other dates for your diary: 27 Thanksgiving (USA) 5 For Guy Fawkes night par excellence, head for Lewes, East

thousands. Alternatively, go spotting

kingfishers as you float downstream on

a boat through Kuttanad in Kerala or

maharajas on a luxury train journey to

the palaces, cities and monuments of

Rajasthan. Invest in a copy of the Rough

Guide to India and start planning a trip

now or call the Indian Government

spend a week imitating India's

Britain: Have a day out at the races on St Stephen's Day (Boxing Day to the rest of Britain) at the Down Royal Racecourse, seven miles south of Belfast. This is also a big social event. The track has good facilities so if the weather's had you can watch the racing from behind the comfort of the har's windows. Tie it in with a trip to Dublin and go on a literary pub crawl. The Irish Tourist Board is on 0171-

Europe: December is a good time to indulge in a trip to the Continent. especially when it involves sharing the journey with a crowd of Norwegian merrymakers. Color Line (0191-296

£70 per person (for four travelling). This includes B&B for three nights. Worldwide: Maximise your daylight quota for the year and make for the South Island of New Zealand on Midsummer's Day, 21 December. As you will see from a new adventure travel series, Walker's World, which begins on Sky One on 4 January, the latest craze in New Zealand is "zorbing". This is nothing to do with Greeks, but involves rolling down hills inside an inflatable plastic hall. For more details contact New Zealand Tourism Board, New Zealand House, Haymarket, London SWIY 4TQ (0839 300900, a premium-rate number; fax 0171-839 8929).



something to declare

Trouble spots Theft threats around the world

Beigium: After three successful and one failed raid in which explosives were used to blow cash machines from their concrete mountings, operator Banksys said cashpoints in dangerous locations would be starved of cash. In one spectacular heist 5 million Belgian francs (\$156,000) were stolen this week from a Banque Bruxelles Lambert cashpoint

Iran: There have recently been a number of cases of tourists being asked for

near Brussels. (Reuter)

Irue or talse

Minimum check-in time for British Airways World Traveller (economy) passengers is 2 hours - BA Worldwide Timetable

False, so long as you have taken the precaution of Joining the British Airways Executive Club (free; call 0345 222111). The Club's latest magazine says
"Executive Club members who hold a confirmed

booking will have their reservations held for up to 45 minutes for long-haul flights and 30 minutes for short-haul destinations prior to departure time, as long as the reservation was made at least 24 hours in advance."

identification by bogus

policemen, who have then

made off with the visitor's

wallet and currency. Keep

passports separate from

other valuables. (Foreign

Tanzania: Incidents of

mugging and theft are

common, especially on

public transport and .

beaches. Food should not be

If approached by policemen

Office Travel Advice Unit)

offences, insist on identification before going to a police station to make any payments. (Foreign Office Travel Advice Unit)

England: As with any country, the major towns of England have their dangerous spots, but these tend to be inner-city housing estates where no tourist has any reason to be. The chief accepted from strangers as it risk on England's streets is may be drugged. Armed car thefts occur fairly frequently. pickpocketing, and there are some virtuoso villains at work in London, especially asking for money for alleged on the big shopping streets

Visitors' book

Olive's Guest House, Atkinson, Dominica, West Indies (001 809 445 7521); £7.50 per person per night, plus meals

Every day is the most wonderful day I've ever had ... and then tomorrow starts and is more wonderful still - Kate

Sturgess, Oxfordshire Olive is the best cook on the island, and the best herhalist - Sissy Hiesmayr, Vienna

The Garden of Eden, the food, the view and the knowledge of the island was greatly appreciated.

occur. Visitors should arrange

Bargain of

the week

Such is the competition on flights between London and Zurich - with British Airways, British Midland and Swissair - that few people need pay more than £99 plus tax on the route. Inter-Europe Travel (0171-630 5188) has this fare, plus £18 tax, on British Midland until Easter, Lupus Travel (0171-306 3000) does hetter with a £99 fare on BA with only £17.10 added for tax. The "stay away Saturday night" restriction that applies to most cheap fares does not apply to all of these.

PS: if ever in Canada, my

Parfait: hel emplacements,

bon repas, bonne discussion - Noel Levet,

Grenoble, France

home is your home -Erroll Hind, Calgary

The island of Djerba, situated in the Gulf of Gabes off the southern coast of Tunisia, is an escapist's paradise of white sands and waving palms.

The island has been referred to as the land of the Lotus Ealers' since the time nf Homer's Odyssey. Today the magic of Djerba stays much the same. Its dazzling beaches extend for a staggering 130 kilometres and its capital, Hournt Souk (which means market quarter in Arabic) is a vibrant maze of tiny alleys, colourful markets and shaded squares with pleasant cafes and restaurants featuring excellent

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e island of Djerba, situated in the if of Gabes off the southern coast Turnista, is an escapist's paradise white sands and waving palms, a island has been referred to as	walkway. Price includes 7 nights half board accommodation, direct flights from Gatwick to Djerba and airport transfers. Subject to availability, there is no supplement for single rooms.
e Land of the Lotus Eaters" since the time Homer's Odyssey. Today the magic of Djerba ys much the same, its dazzing beaches end for a staggering 130 kilometres and its oltal, Hournt Souk (which means market arter in Arabic) is a vibrant maze of timy alleys,	Please sand me details of 'The independent' Djerba offer NAME ADDRESS
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Making it a doddle for guests who toddle

Adrian Bridge tries to take the strain out of a family break

booking into a pension explicitly catering for parents with children under the age of five was such a good idea.

January was one of them. Having danced in the New Year to the strains of Strauss's "Blue Dannbe" (well, the pension was in Austria) and washed it all down with a heady mixture of Glühweirs, schnapps and bubbly, the last thing I really wanted was to be woken by a chorusof howling toddlers - even if

Tizian, a stocky little boy with sight, was about to lay into my two-vear-old son. I was reminded of Jean-Paul Sartre's famous line: "Hell is other people." Only he didn't get it quite right. Hell is other people's children.

The Bergfried "Babypension" just outside the medieval town of Gmund, on the road between Salzburg and Klagenfurt, is one of the growing number in Austria that are aimed at young families. With a child of their own already (and another clearly on the way), its proprietors, Horst and Andrea, were pretty clued up as to what parents with small children really need. Basics such as cots, potties, highchairs and bottlewarmers were an automatic part of the service. A colourful playroom, heated padng pool and plates sporting the Lion King motif were nice extras. On top of that, there was plenty of organised outdoor activity: for those with children out of nappies, skiing at the nearby resort of Innerkrems, for the rest, soowman building, sleigh-riding and torch-lit treks

through striking pine forests.
Having already experienced
several less than stress-free
"bolidays" with our two (ages
two and four), it seemed like an idea worth exploring. Tizian apart, having other children around was bound to make life easier. And if ours did start playing up - the inevitable temper tantrums here, spilling

here were times when I drinks and shouting loudly dummy alongside a wondered whether there - what would it mattet: announcing that this is so would everybody else's.

A good case in point, mealtimes. Although occasionally we attempt to dine out en Six in the morning on 1 famille, it rarely gets beyond a anuary was one of them. single course and a single glass of wine and frequently ends in a hurried exit, with apologetic looks all round. Here, we could relax. When the children were through, they could run wild - and be in good com-

Perhaps not surprisingly, the overwhelming majority of the Bergfried's guests are Gertwo of them were my own. man: thirtysomething couples
Later, bleary-eyed at the from Dortmund and Hanover
breakfast table, I ooticed that
who burn down the autobahns with their little Janinas and a penchant for growling and Florians to spend a week lashing out at everyone in recharging the batteries in a classic Alpine setting.

Many who were there in the

first week of January had returned for the second, third and even fourth time, clear converts to the cause (or to Horst's Wurzn, root-hased home brew - something which, in his thick Austrian accent, he insisted was purely 'medicinal").

That, coupled with the fact that we were only 10 families anyway, made for a genuinely intimate atmosphere. With so much in common, it was easy for us to break the ice. The obvious drawback was that much of the conversation was centred on our respective offspring - and, even worse, as the week progressed, on their little coughs and colds and other, less savoury ailments.

The Bergfried was one of the trail-blazers in what has clearly become a lucrative part of the Austrian holiday market. When it opened up in 1984 there were hardly any such establishments. Such has heen their success that today there are more than 80.

Nowhere is the trend more marked than around Gmund itself, in the Liesar and Malta valley - otherwise known as the "Valley of the Baby Hotels" (clearly Austria's answer to the Valley of the

when, a few miles along the road going sonth from Gmund

announcing that this is Trebesing - "Europe's 1st Baby

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What this means in practice is an entire complex boasting a host of child- and toddlerfriendly hotels and lodging houses, a special "Nappy Wanderers' Way" (buggies wel-come), a mini-farm and "Ford Baby City", a mock American Indian village where the child-

ren can play at being cowboys.

The Trebesing village was
the brainchild of Siegfried Neuschitzer, who says the idea came to him in the early Eighties after friends with very young children complained that they were being treated like second-class citizens wherever they went. From modest beginnings, the concept has grown. Recent refinements include ski school for twoyear-olds (nose-wiping thrown in), and mountain climbing with nappy change at the summit (presumably an optional

Back at the Bergfried, the general consensus was that one could probably take this baby business a bit too seriously, and that in the bigger establishments there was a tendency to over-organise. As we gathered at the bar when the children were safely asleep (but, of course, monitored through the computerised haby alarm system), we agreed that the most relaxing thing about the whole experience was simply being in a tolerant atmosphere.

And for all the wonderful facilities, toys and fun-type activities, there was equally a consensus that, with all our children still under the age of five, the earliest any of us could look forward to something approaching a real holi-day would probably be about the year 2010.

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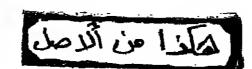
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At our 10th birthday this year there was perhaps one thing to celebrate above all others: the quality of our pictures. No paper has been associated with highquality photography more than The Independent and 1996 has been no exception, as this selection of some of the best proves. From the stark image of a young victim of the Afghan civil war lying in hospital, to the roistering charge of the Household Cavalry in rehearsal, to a bull's



FEBRUARY One more victim of an unresolved conflict: a young casualty of a land-mine in the continuing conflict in Afghanistan between Russian invaders and Augmentan Fighters lies in hospital near Kabul with severe head wounds

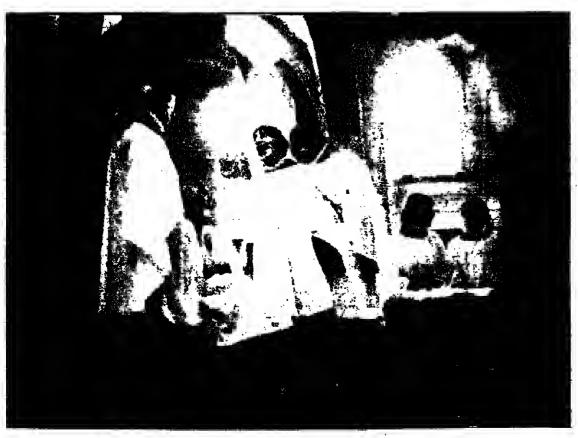
IMAGES OF WAR, PEACE,

blissful moment during the Royal Show in West Sussex, it is an eclectic selection which proves that we are not only on the spot when it comes to the big event, but are there to record it with sensitivity and wit. Tom Pilston, who took the picture of the Afghan victim, is this year's winner of the Nikon Features Photographer of the Year award. Two others, David Rose and David Sandison, also won awards.



JUNE Nothing to do with BSE - just a way of keeping cool: a farmer at the South of England Show in West Sussex hoses down his over-heated prize build uring one of the hottest days of the summer

Photograph: Brian Harris



JUNE (left) Women and the Church are now good friends: chorgiris at Wells Cathedral School laugh their way through a rehearsal

> Photograpi David Ros

OCTOBER (right)
Union of speed and
skill: Robert Howley
strugs off Gareth
Rees, Wasps standoff, at Loftus Road.
The Cardiff scrumhalf scored two tries

Photograph: Peter Jay





Photograph: Imba

Photograph:

4CITRIUMPH... AND BULL



AUGUST Just for kicks: a ballerina from the Joffrey Ballet Company dances with verve and grace to the music of Prince at London's Royal Festival Hall



OCTOBER Awaiting eviction: 23-year-old Swampy, who dug himself into a berth 50ft underground to try to prevent construction of the Exeter-Honiton road scheme in Devon Photograph: Tom Pilston



JULY Victory is a gasp away: Steve Smith makes his final jump during the Olympic Games in Atlanta to take a bronze medal for Britain

Photograph: David Ashdown



Vision of true progress

Anna Pavord on the legacy of a year's planting

den is always more interesting in think about than the past. Planting trees and shrubs in the still, suspended days around Christmas gave me the pleasant illusion that we have made progress this year. Of course, I learnt long ago that the trick in the garden is to look, like a blinkered horse, only in certain directions.

The path through the pergola is a usefully scothing view, oow that the leaves have been raked up. This is tuncel vision to a T - provided I go down tu the second pair of posts before opening my eyes. If I duo't, it's difficult not to see that these posts are listing determinedly to the right. That is a legacy of the

And the bottom border in the kitchen garden can bear looking at too, cleared uf the tomatoes that I was still picking at the end of November. It is thickly blanketed now with the richest, darkest muck I've been ahle in get my hands on for a long while.

Some areas of the bank where we first planted now oeed a complete overhaul. Comfrey, spotty-leaved pulmonaria and craneshills, put in to cover the ground instead of docks and nettles, have done their work almost 100 well. They have swamped less aggressive oeighbours, the comfrey rolling like a lava wave over spurges and day lilies, artemisias and woodruff.

But there are masses of bulbs in there too, so I'll leave the job of clearing out comfrey until the spring, when what's uoderground now will he above ground and easier in see.

The arrival of the new trees and shrubs has given me a cast-iron excuse to ahandoo routine elearingup jobs and get planting. The star of the oewcumers is Magnolia wilsonii. Why did I waot it? Sometimes, in the six-month interval between order and delivery, I forget why I wanted a plant. Not with this une, though. I saw it at Caerhays in Cornwall in late spring when the rich, fruity smell of its white flowers spread in a cloud all around it. I looked it up when I got home and discovered that unlike other magnulias I've fallen in love with - M campbellii, M liliiflora, M soulangeana - this one had a fighting chance of succeeding in our soil. The others like a billet more acid

than we can provide. The best known magnolias have flowers that sit upright like candles on the branches. But the pure white petals of M wilsonii's flowers hang down to enclose a ring of shocking new additions exactly, because both red stamens. At first sight the flower ems archetypally chaste and pure. When you get cluse, you see it is a sexpot. The out in the centre of the stamens develops into a fruit, a buff

pink colour in October. It's named after the plant hunter Ernest Wilson, who introduced it into this country from China lo 1908. It was, wrote Wilson, "quite a. commun shruh in the woods uf western Szechwan, especially around the town of Tachico-Lu". He

he future in one's own gar- edges of woods or along mountain streams, and sent seeds of it home to James Veitch's famous nursery.

It can make 2ft of growth a year, if it is suited. The pale hark oo the newest twigs of my specimen shows that it grew all of that last year, while it was still in its pot. I've planted it in the kind of half-shaded spot that Wilson's description of its Chinese home seems to suggest. And it is on the top of the bank, so that I'll be able to look up into those nodding flowers, if they come.

The magnolia is an uncharacteristic plant for our kind of garden. I've never had the territory (or the desire) to garden in the grand woodland manner, but these big species magnolias (M wilsonii can get to about 25ft) look as though they deserve a larger space rather than the hit of ramhling rectory that it has in fact got. But it is planted in a corner made by two boundary walls, and we will only ever see it against sycamore or sky. It doesn't have to mill with the rest of the crowd; it can stand disdainfully apart.

Quite different in character are two fancy elders that I ordered. If you can't beat them, join them, was the philosophy here. Wild elders spring up all over the gardeo and they obvinusly enjoy the damp, heavy soil we have. So while uprooting some of the ordinary elders, I've been planting the cut-leaved Sam-bucus nigra laciniata and gold-leaved racemosa "Sutherland Gold"

Coloured foliage can he tricky, drawing too much atteotioo to itself, hut this golden elder is reasonably muted. The variety called Plumosa aurea is the hrightest of them, hut that wasn't what I wanted. Sutberland Gold is not only a geotler colour, it also burns less easily in sun than Plumosa aurea. The cut-leaved elder is perhaps the most beautiful of the whole family: the foliage as elegant as a fern's and the flower heads higger than those of the com-

"Guincho Purple" I already have, the porple appearing as a hronze flush on the elder's leaves rather than the very heavy, all-over saturated colour that you get in the purple nut tree, Corylus maxima "Purpurea". The flowers' heads are tinged with pink. It gets its name from the garden in Northern Ireland where Mrs Vera Mackie, the owner, first grew it. Elders will pot up with quite deep shade if necessary. Shade mutes the colours still further.

Two fan-trained fruit trees were on the order, too. These were not were replacements. The apricot ("New Large Early") that I planted this time last year never broke into leaf this spring, so the nursery gave me another one - bare root, rather than pot-grown as the previous one had been.

The old dead apricot came smoothly out of the ground with the root still as neatly pot-formed as wheo it had first been planted. That was the problem. The roots had fuund it growing high, between couldn't cope when they did. I'm Third time lucky, I hope. Apricots fire, along with some sappy 7,000 and 8,500ft, often on the much happier with the rangier root are easygoing fruit, where they are hranches of a fig that I risked prun-



heeo grown in the open ground and lifted just before delivery. The variety this time is "Alfred", slightly later сторрing than "New Large Early", looger had. Both these varieties are less prone to dying than "Moor

West Country, they need a sunny wall. But they are much easier to manage outside than peaches. They don't get the debilitating leaf curl, which the nursery unfortunately no and they crop oo old as well as new wood, so pruning isn't so critical as it is with peach trees.

never had to face the real world, and couldn't cope when they did. I'm Third time lucky, I hope. Apricots The old apricot went on to a bon-fire, along with some sappy The old apricot went on to a bon-

system of the new tree, which had suited. Even in our mild bit of the ing oow rather than in March. There was half a wheelbarrow full of bindweed roots smouldering in that fire, too, as well as a vicious branch of the tender, evergreen Cherokee rose (R laevigata) that had torn open my head several times this year. The bonfire was cathartic: a few old enemies vanquished a fragile end-of-year truce established in the garden.



ve had a worrying year with the wisteria. oo the front of the bouse. It is a whiteflowered Wisteria venusta, fabulously scented and trained out

oo parallel wires so that it covers most of the space available on that south front. But gradually it has been dying back and the foliage has had the pale. sickly look of limeinduced chlorosis. For some time I have

been dosing it with Sequestrene, a chelated iron compound which usually helps to overcome chlorosis. But it had no effect. Fioally, in desperation, I seot a leaf away to a horticultural scientist, Dr Pickering, who confirmed that chlorosis was the problem. By this time, some new growth

was pale cream

He recommended acidifying the soil with problem, he said, is not a simple one. "If you just make a guess as to what to apply and the dosage is too small, there will be

the dosage is excessive then pH may be reduced be 'fixed' in an unavailable form if the pH is decreased too much. This can be overcome by applying a phosphate fertiliser after

it's most needed. You can buy flowers of sulphur from garden centres or by mail order from Garden Direct. Geddings Road, Hoddesdon, Herts EN11 0LR (01992 441888).



ou can see it from the Iron Age hurial mound known as Hetty Pegler's Tump. You can see it from Nailsworth and Amberley and the outskirts of Stroud. In short, you can see it from many points of the compass and from miles around, spearing the skyline in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty - a terrible tribute to the futility of present planning cootrols.

I refer to the single E-40 wind turbine, over 200ft tall, which has gone up high oo the Cotswolds near the village of Nympsfield, in the face of bitter local epposition. For the time being it easily bolds the trophy for the most-hated object in Gloucestershire, just as the entrepreneur behind it, Dale Vince, is not exactly last in the mosthated person stakes.
It is now four years since,

acting for the German firm Enercon, he first sought permission to erect turbines on the site. Fatal damage was done to the conservationists' cause when Strond District Council - swayed into the belief that wind energy is "green" - gave permission for him to build two smaller E-33 masts. Later he applied for a single E-40, and when this was refused, took the matter to appeal.

A local protection group was formed in Nympsfield, and demanded a public inquiry, oo the grounds that 400 people had objected. Rejecting their request, the Department of the Environment announced that the matter would be decided by written representation. When the inspector's

report was presented in. September, it took the protesters' breath away. It. admitted that the nubine would do significant harm to the village, where the structure would be "an alien and intrusive feature", and it agreed that the scheme conflicted with "existing and policies. And yet the inspector said he was powerless to stop it going ahead, since Strond had already given permission for ... two turbines - and one would

be less damaging than two. The villagers were curaged. They were also incredulous. The report that the Government's rules on Areas of Ourstanding Natural Beauty were

absolutely worthless. Nevertheless, the protesters determined to battle on. It so happened that the nearest point at which the turbine's supply could be fed into the oational grid was in the graveyard of St Joseph's, the Catholic church on the outskirts of Nympsfield. For 10 days and nights the villagers maintained a picket. in company with two local priests - ooe Protestant, one Catholic - blocking access to the site in the hope that they

Duff Hart-Davis A single E-40 wind turbine, over 200ft tall, has gone up high on the Cotswolds in the face of bitter opposition

could prevent the Midland Electricity Board (MEB) from making the connectioo. Then one evening a police

inspector arrived, announcing that he had "come to assess the opposition". His aim, he said, was to avoid a breach of the peace, but if the villagers obstructed the MEB in the discharge of its lawful business, he would have to arrest them all and detain them in jail until the work had been completed. At 11am the oext day the

police returned, escorting the MEB, their arrival heraided by the blowing of a hunting horn and the ringing of the sanctuary hell. The forces of law and order found the churchyard blocked by a semicircle of chairs, each occupied by a protester, as if in the froot row of the stalls at a theatre. After a parley, in which the two priests took part, the MEB withdrew for the day. and the villagers celebrated a great victory.
Yet they knew the reprieve

was temporary. They knew that if the MEB took out a court order, they could not cootinue to resist - and so they were steamfollered into defeat. The National Trust, meanwhile, had helatedly realised that the turbine would spoil the view from parts of Woodchester Park, one of its oewest acquisitions. Horrified, it made a last-minute attempt to stop it, but withdrew because of the likely costs of **W** legal action.

Furious arguments still rage about what the turbine will or will not produce. Its champions claim it will provide power for nearly ,200 people; its detractors, that an average output of 150 kilowarts will boil only 50 kettles. What is certain is that in still weather it will produce no power at all. The villagers were still in

shock from the speed and nithlessness with which their protests were steamrollered. Somehow they have to find £8,000 in legal fees. Many of them have pot in applications for a reduction in council tax, on the grounds that their homes have been substantially devalued. A complaint is being prepared for submission to the local government ombudsman about the behaviour of the Stroud District Council. Fears are rife that another field ocarby, which the Church Commissioners want to sell, may fall into the hands of developers.

The whole saga offers a grim illustration of how powerless ordinary people are, even wheo well organised, in attempting to protect their environment.





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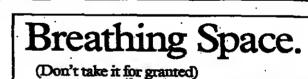
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Anna Payord





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Reduced-price insanity

The January sale is crunch-time for the serious shopaholic, writes Jane Furnival

anta has brought us everything on our Christmas lists. So why did thousands of us feel the need to rush back to the shops on Boxing Day for such treasures as a swimsuit made out of garden string, a cherob with a rugby player's broken nose and a pair of thighhigh boots that fall down? (Those are just the failures I'll confess to.)

Going to the January sales is a primitive ritual. We gather to make a killing. Prices are "slashed" and "cut" and written in blood-red, the colour that makes our brains excited, sexually turned on and sometimes angry. It's a lottery. The promise is prizes for all, if only you rummage enough. Sales are also a great escape from post-Christmas family stress. Shops provide a safe, happy environment with everything neat, a smiley staff and a pampering atmosphere, not to mention the feeling that you, the cus-

tomer, can do no wrong. it's usually women who spend, spend, spend on sales but that doesn't mean they are somehow biologically the Shopping Sex. It is simply that they are conditioned to shop, thinks Dr Sheila Rossan, a sexual

stereotype specialist at Brunel University. "It has to do with the fact that traditionally men have been highly directed shoppers because until recently stores were closed after working hours," she says.

Women, on the other hand, have had more spare time and therefore been able to browse and pick and choose. The more ardent women shop in pairs. A recent flyon-the-wall documentary at London's Harvey Nichols revealed only one woman by herself in the whole store, "Women like someone else's opinion. It's a social activ-

ity," Dr Rossan says.
Perhaps for dedicated shoppers, "saleing" is a continuation of the Christmas party feeling, when it is acceptable to be a little out of control. We rationalise our useless bargains by saying we're stocking up. I have seen "salers" copy the purchases of someone smarter next to them in the store. Perhaps Harvey Nicks and Co should try planting a few shoppers with model looks next

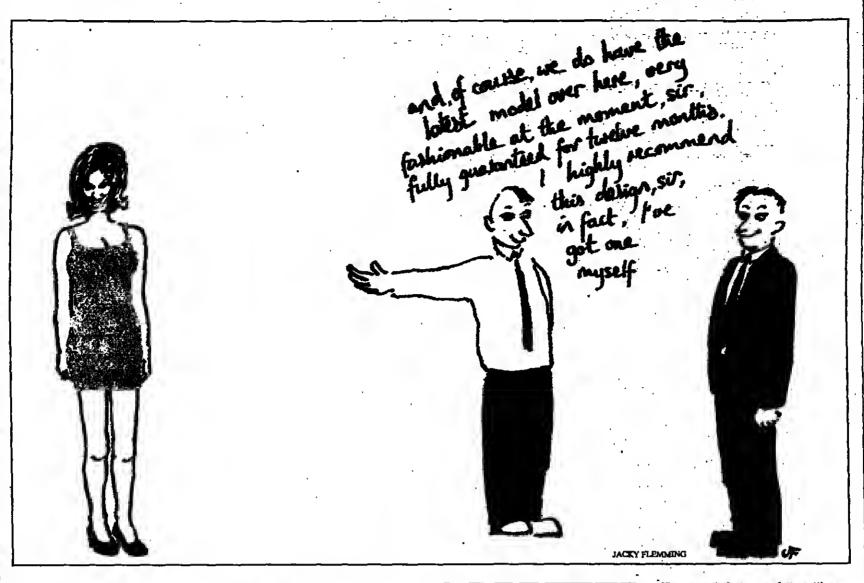
to the atrocious stock. It would move faster. Sale-oholics feel exonerated by the cost. reduction," explains Or Ludwig Lowenstein, the shoppers' shrink, a psychologist who detoxes shopping addicts, or "onomaniacs" as they're known. He will only take a patient if they drop their weapons and go

peacefully by giving up their credit cards. Compulsive shoppers are at the extreme end of the spectrum of the browser-gatherer kind of shopper. Browsers seek a bit of a cheer-up. Compulsive shoppers really think they can fill their inner emptiness with material things. Shoes are at the top of their shopping list - 98.5 million pairs of women's shoes were sold this year followed by perfume and clothes.

they haven't got everything and are often depressed and anxious," says Or Lowenstein. The less well-off end up committing fraud and going to prison to pay their bills.

Compulsive shoppers are like nymphomaniacs. Just as unsatisfied women rifle through every available man in search of the one who can give them the orgasm they have never had, these shoppers get their fix from the surge of adrenatine they get from spotting what might be ... The Solution, the Ultimate Thing that will really fulfil them. But then, like a drug, the feeling wears off and they have to shop to start

the cycle again. The Duchess of York is their patron saint



Good thing



Philippe Starck's 14" portable TV Tilts conveniently so that you can watch it in bed. If you lose the answer. A sure collector's piece, reduced to £199 from £230.

Selfridges, Oxford Street, London sale starts 9am December 27.

and Awful Warning. Even when on her

uppers, she would spend thousands to get

herself out of a downer. She probably

couldn't tell you what she bought.
The more controlled kind of shopper

doesn't have this hunger. She is a hunter.

adviser based at London's Grosvenor

House Hotel. "Evening dresses are brilliant

buys in the sales," she advises. "So expensive otherwise." She takes her clients to

dress hire shops which often sell lightly

Shawna Moss is a freelance shopping

The Opportunist.

Bad thing



Linen pillowcases for £58.65, reduced from £68.95 from The White Company (0171-385 7988). Save your money and mamage by going to bed rather than staying up late ironing them. Lunn Antiques offer similar new linen pillowcases at £34 a pair. Mail order possible. 86 New Road, London, (D171-736 4638).

worn Cinderella ball gowns, like One Night Stand (44 Pimlico Road, London, SW1, 0171-730 8708).

Never be impressed by the name tag, she advises. "I see people get carried away by designer names in sales." Her other tip is to negotiate the sale price

down. "The richest women love a bargain. I have one client who can negotiate me under the table. I hide behind the coats." The biggest sale shopper is a new type, the Sightseer. These use shopping as a form of entertainment, sport or therapy.

Sure thing



Most shops give extra discounts, sale previews and reduced price parking to storecard holders. Oon't walt to apply on the first sale day or you'll miss the bargains. Apply In advance - and remember to ask for a temporary card In time for the sale.

Harvey Nichols - 0171-235 5D00 Harrods - D171-73D 123 House of Fraser - 0171-834 1515

Malls were built for Sightseers. They eat sandwiches around the fountains while their children play in the see-through lifts.

Primrose Wells, a 32-year-old wedding organiser, and her mother Maggie Evans, 53, are expert Sightseers. "I'm not an addict, but I enjoy it as therapy," says Maggie. The women see their shopping as female bonding, a celebration of the Christmas spirit, an escapade rather than an escape. There's a lot of camaradene between mothers and daughters in the changing rooms."

They plan their day carefully, getting up before six in the morning to find the parking space nearest the shop entrances. That

leaves time for a civilised breakfast before the shops open. They wear comfortable flat shoes and take only one jumper, tied round their waists, because shops are so hot. They won't buy special sale purchases, only proper stock. Primrose's big buy last year was nine pairs of roller blades for friends, reduced from £300 to £120 in

Macro. "My husband Steve is terrified of

going shopping, because I spend money. When you buy something, you rely on men being absent minded. When I hear women in the changing rooms saying, 'What shall I tell my husband?' I say, 'Tell him it's been in your wardrobe for years'." Are there any men who enjoy sale shopping? Tim Guy, 28, is an HGV driver who

counts shopping among his favourite the crowds have died down. At the start of sales, you get 10 per cent off. At the end, you get 50."

While Maggie Evans is at the sales three times a week, her husband Ken, 56, has

not been shopping for two years. Why doesn't he shop? "I'm happy with what I've got," he says, absentmindedly.

 Shawna Moss offers help with sale shopping. Tel 0973 638977 Dr Ludwig Lowenstein offers advice to over-ardent shoppers in person or by letter. Allington Manor, Allington Lane, Fairoaks, Eastleigh, Hants, SO5D 7DE. D1703 692261.

Starts and stops

six of the best 1997 resolutions

Huge spiral-bound diary, £11.99 This diary has a good year planner, important dates, international dialing codes. address pages and a huge notes section at the back - ideal fur any international jet setter. From Paperchase (0171-580 8496) branches nationwide.

OSeven days' large Nicotinell _ patches, £15.99 The patches have been successful oo some people, but different methods of stopping smoking suit different people - including hypnosis, tapes, books and

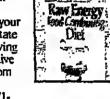
videos. If you do choose to nicotinell try patches ask the pharmacist first if they're suitable for

especially when taking other medication. From Boots, branches nationwide.

Trainers, from a selection by Nike Make sure that you choose the right trainers for the activity: if you do a lot of different sport go for a cross trainer, for aerobics choose one with extra support around the ankles. But generally make sure you huy the right size as feet tend to swell when doing any sport. From J D Sports (01706 628 012) branches

4 'Raw Energy Food Combining Diet', by Leslie Kenton, £6.99 Food combining diets mix

carbohydrates with projein allegedly increasing your energetic state and improving your digestive system. From Books Etc stores (0171-



379 6838) throughout London.

50ne driving lesson from BSM will cost £16.50 - after which you can book up a course if you're happy with the instructor and the company (which means a good discount) or carry on with single lessons. Look in your local yellow pages or phone 0800 700800 for our nearest branch.

6 Linguaphone Italian travel pack, £9.99 This pack includes a travel cassette, a language cassette, a phrase book and panic cards. Learning a new language is a challenge, but think how impressed your lady friend will be when you go to Florence or Venice and you can talk the lingo. From Books Etc (0171-379 6838) branches throughout London.

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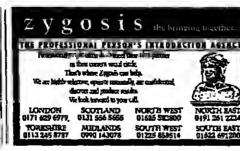
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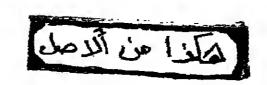
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Best for the road ahead

Gavin Green nominates his top twelve motors for '97'

yourself. January is the second new car after August, thanks in the kindos of setting a New Year date on the highook. It's also a much more sensible leading a New Year date on the highook. It's also a much more sensible leading cars: Fiat Brava. The stephighook. It's also a much more sensible because all the new models are now

Safely in place at your local dealer.
This year's top 12 feature six newcorners, proof that it's been a good year for new cars. Major new models of 1997 - which may be worth waiting for include a new small Land Rover (on sale next December), the Renault Scenic one-time class journeyman into a class (out in June), a new Toyota Corolla act. More distinctive looks combine (summer) and the Ford Puma (a small coupé due to hit the road in June). In the meantime, here are the best value new cars to go for this January:

Baby cars: Ford Ka. Not so much a baby as a stylish babe, the Ka stands out for its wacky lines, directness and eagerness. The back seat is almost useless and the hoot's hopeless, but who cares? Also recommended: Fiat Cinquecento Sporting. Timy in size and big in performance. the sporty Cinquecento is a hoot to drive and cheap to run.

Smatt cars: Volkswagen Polo. The best huilt car in the class, and nne nf the roomiest. The only downside is that its tremendous popularity means

litre model, thrugh - it's too slow. Also most popular time to buy a recommended: new Ford Fiesta, which

time to buy than August, not least ahead family favourite has the boldest design in the Escort class and drives like a sports car. It's also terrifically roomy. The only downside is a slightly jittery ride, which should be fixed next year. Also recommended: Peugeot 306.

Big cars: Fnrd Moodeo. This year's mid-life facelift has transformed the with improvements in the engine, ride with improvements in the engine, ride and steering, to produce a well-rounded and comfortable family car. Also recommended: Peugeot 406, for its sublime ride and its great looks.

Small executive cars: Audi A4, which sets new standards for style, quality and driver appeal in the class—and easily trumps the fild small executive car star, the BMW 3-series. Mind way the 3-series despite its against still and series are series and series and series and series and series are series and series are series and series and series are series are series and series are series and series are series are series and series are series are series are series and series are series are series are series and series are series

you, the 3-series, despite its age, is still the second best car in the class.

Big executive cars: BMW 5-series. One of the best new cars of 1996 and machine almost eerily free from fault. It rides, handles and drives briltiantly, and lonks bold, if still like a BMW. Go for the 2.3-litre six-cylinder

Also recommended: Mercedes E-class. which isn't quite as good to drive as the 5-series, but is even better made.

Linury cars: Jaguar XJ6. Now two years old, the latest saloon is the first Jag with German build quality and reliability. Just as important, it mixes these with all those marvellous, long-standing Jaguar niceties such as wafting ride, Edwardian-sitting-room cabin and great style. Late next year, it will get the new V8 engine, as fitted to the XKS sports car, which will make it even better. Also recommended: Lexus LS400. Understated to the point of being too plain the stated to the point of being too plain, the Lexus is still the luxury car benchmark for engine refinement and quietness.

4x4s: Jeep Cherokee. Long in the tooth the Cherokee may be, but it's still the best value off-roader on the market and one of the best to drive, easily preferable to a Land Rover Discovery. Its fake wood and leather trim is kitsch to some, but authentically American to others. A facelift and a few mechanical improvements are planned for the coming year. Also recommended: Toyota RAV-4. Easily the best small 4x4, miles ahead of the Suzukis and Daihatsus.

Estates: Mercedes E-class. An expensive way to cart home the goods from the local DIY store, and a pricy way to carry a big family, but it's still the best

fter spoiling the kids for Christmuch of a discount. Don't buy the 1.0-muscle - in which case specify the 2.8. and full of brilliant details. Also recommended: Renault Laguna estate; Mondeo estate. Both are roomy, wellmade, good value and comfortable.

MPVs: Seat Alhambra. Identical to

the Ford Galaxy or Volkswagen Sharan but, owing to its inferior badge, cheaper. Also recommended: the Galaxy or the Sharan - if you don't want to drive a car named after a chair.

Sports cars: Mercedes SLK. Just on sale, but already with a two-year waiting list, the SLK has all the style of the nid ex-Princess Diana SL but only half the price tag. Hugely desirable, and fabulous to drive. Also recommended: Jaguar XK8 and MGF. Both prove that while Britain may have lost its indigenous car industry, it hasn't lost the knack nf making great sports cars. The MGF shows that Rover can still make imaginative cars, while the XK8 is the

best engineered Jagnar ever.

Supercars: Bestley Continental T.

Stupidly expensive (£220,000), stupeodously fast and stupefyingly imposing, the Continental T is the best Beotley since they won Le Mans more than 60 years ago. Despite the small size of its maker (Rolls-Royce), the Cooti proves that when it comes to making outrageous, hand-built tuxury cars, unbody does it better. Also recommended: any Ferrari.





Two to for: the Grand . Cheroke (above) and the

Going slowly

Penny Jackson gathers predictions for the new market

his year the forecasters got it wrong. Their predictions of 3 per cent now look very modest when set against an annual increase of at least 7 per ceot on the latest calculations of the Halifax. Some hot spots have seen rises up the 20 per cent and more. This year few are showing such cautinn. The investment bank, UBS, is ant alone in predicting an average rise of 10 per cent. For London and the south east UBS expects increased of 15 per cent, while in Scotland, Wales and the North, between 6

What few seemed to have anticipated was the shortage of good property that fuelled prices. Sav-ills, who had predicted an average tinuing as lung as people's housing much effect on the market, nor a Yolande Barnes, Savills: "We see

stock available. This year, their national forecast, which includes a Labour victory, is an 8.7 per ceot rise, with prime country houses leading the field at 14.3 per ceot. Here, specialists in their field give their predictions.

David Wood, Black Horse Agencies: "Last month saw nur highest number of applicants but they are not putting their own houses on the market. However, early in 1997, when they become aware of the shortage of property, I expect to see new instructions coming in. They will certainly get from between 1 and 3 per cent more price increase of 5.2 per cent for than in the last quarter of 1996. I this year, sees this situation condon

aspirations are not matched by the steady increase io interest rates. There will still be good mortgage deals around next year."

Ian Darby, Jnhn Charcol, mort-gage adviser: "If interest rates do not rise and prices continue to increase, the market will become overheated. For that reason we expect interest rates to rise after the election and that by the end of the year they will be 8.99 per cent. That means about a 30 per cent increase in the cost of money which will slow the market down. As a result we see house prices rising nationally by 6 per cent and a bit more in the south east. We expect the General Electinn to have a dampening effect oo the market immediately before and after."

increasing by 7.4 per cent, but higher increases in the second division of established locations. These include Waodswarth, Chiswick, Clapham Common, Battersea, Brook Green, West Hamp-stead, Fulham, Hammersmith and

Highbury."
Rebecca Read, Cluttons: "Prices in central London will continue to rise at about 10 per cent. I wouldn't be surprised to see 15 to 20 per cent for the best examples of their kind, although I do not see a return to

the boom of the late Eighties. "

Bryan Jaram, Jackson-Stops & Staff: "We have seen an average increase of 5 per cent over the year,

expect to see a lot mnre activity early in the year as there is a great deal of pent-up demand."

Staff: "We are not getting a move-ment of people into the North-west so I cannot see anything forcing prices up. I see the market moving ahead slowly and steadily."

Country houses

Ian Homersham, John D Wood, which largely covers the south: "More properties should start coming on to the market next year but unless it is swamped, which is unlikely, it will not be possible to keep up with demand. The scarcity We will see an uplift oext year of good houses and the increase in because we always lag behind the earnings generally in London will average by 7 per ceot."

prices in prime central London south by six to nine months. I push prices up by about 12 per cent. There will be increasing pressure on homes in popular locations for which some people will be prepared to pay that bit extra. There is a strong market at the The North-west There is a strong market at the Graham Adnitt, Jackson-Stops & moment and those considering selling would be advised to take advantage of it."

David Mote, The House Builders' Federatinn: "The increase in starts has been lowest in London and the South-east where the demand for good quality hnmes is highest. It is critical for mure planning permission to be given. We expect to see a decline in the use of brown land' as it becomes more expensive to develop there.

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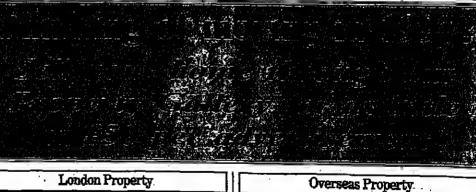
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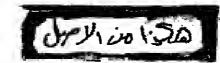
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homes & money

New laws that spell trouble. Fear of Finance.....page 18

. What should I do with £10,000 next year?

nterest rates are still low in most large economies, and most financial advisers still think there is better value in well-chosen stock-market hased investments in 1997. The Independent has asked five financial advisers to recommend specific investments suitable for investors with a lump sum of £10,000 to put away in the coming year. Their objectives may vary slightly, from a seven-year plan to fund future school fees to building income for future retirement. Here are their recommendations.

Kearn Seagar, managing direc-tor of Bristol-based Whitechurch Securities, offers this advice for a couple looking for a good long-term income flow from a spread of low-risk

First, I would recommend a with-profits bond. The underlying portfolio of these bonds usually consists of equities, gilts and property, hut the insurance company managing the hond uses its reserves to smoothe fluctuations in value,

I would suggest the NPI With Profits Bond. This guarantees 8.5 per cent in the first year (with 6-7 per cent a longer-term target), which can be taken as income,

One partner should also go for the M&G Corporate Bond PEP, held in the form of a personal equity plan in order to maximise the relatively high income yield obtainable on corporate bonds. This particular bond yields a tax-free 7.4 per cent

per annum at the moment. Finally, I would go for a PEP in the Credit Suisse Income Fund, which currently gives a tax-free income of 4.5 per cent per annum. This is an investment in the UK equity market so the price will vary bond but as the other two products are fairly low risk he portfolio as a whole is not unduly risky.

The income is lower hut the fund should also provide some good capital growth over the years which would give a fair measure of protection against inflation.

Cherry Dodd, senior planning consultant with Bradford & Bingley Building Society, recommends funds for an investor in his late forties.

I would put £4,000 into GT Income Fund, chosen because of the consistently disciplined manner in which the fund is managed, achieving an annualised growth of 14.3 per cent over the last 10 years. A search for undervalued assets rather than high-yielding companies is of overriding importance to its success. It is my favourite fund at present

Next put £3,000 into Credit Suisse Income Fund, which bas achieved an annualised growth rate of 14.8 per cent over 10 years. The fund manager has a strong bias towards manufacturing companies.



Eastern promise on Tokyo's stock exchange: Japan is one suggested investment

unlikely to be repeated, and

invests accordingly.

The remaining £3,000 could be invested in Morgan Grenfell UK Equity Income Fund. profits bond or corporate tains some exposure across the range of quoted shares.

To provide the maximum income in retirement, all three holdings should be placed in which is easily achieved with a personal equity plan to obtain tax-free income, and all dividends should be reinfirst holding should be put into a PEP from the start and the others in the subsequent

Philippa Gee of Gee & Co in Shrewsbury offers this advice for a couple with £10,000 to

tuck away for long-term growth.

I am assuming that both partners already have a mortgage to finance, and the lumprather than a regular annual

On that hasis I recommend the Schroder UK Equity fund, a well established, conservatively run fund with strong.

He believes the consumer consistent management and hoom of the Seventies is research teams, giving you unlikely to be repeated, and exposure to an established fund investing mainly in larger-sized UK companies.

For higher-rate taxpayers, this investment should be put It has achieved a 15.7 per cent in a PEP and, bearing in mind annualised growth rate over the current market unease based funds is preferable to five years. It is biased towards and the possibility that share opting for lower-risk funds, I significantly more than a with- FTSE 100 stocks, but main- prices may fall over 1997, I think the investment should

a direct debit. Secondly, build up exposure vested until retirement. The £4,000 PEP invested in the Invesco European Growth Fund. Roy Powe heads the investment team, which emphasises the need for indepth analysis and risk management, and maintains a limit of one third of the fund

invested in smaller companies. As a much more speculative investment, a sum of £1.000 should be invested into emerg-ing markets. Stock markets in sum is a one-off investment some emerging markets tend not to be easy to trade, so I suggest the Fidelity Latin America Fund. Be prepared for £5,000 should be invested into large fluctuations in unit values, as this is definitely a fund for those with steady nerves looking for long-term growth.

To provide the maximum income in retirement, all three holdings should be placed in a PEP

Roddy Kohn, of Bristol-based Kohn Cougar, looks at invest-

couple to fund the future education of their children. On the understanding that you both agree that having your money in stock-market recommend two PEPs to obtain tax-free income, be staggered into instalments because both of you are of £500 a month over a period higher-rate taxpayers and of 10 months, something expect to be so when your children's private education

ing o hump sum for a young

begins in 2004. For one of you I would to the European sector with a choose the Bankers' Investment Trust from Hendersons because it is a diversified portfolio of international shares, and rated medium risk, which aims to achieve long-term capital growth.

The fund is trading at a discount of g per cent, which means buying shares for less than the value of the assets within the trust. Part of the capital is invested in the Far East, Japan, Europe and Australia so it will not be too. dependent on the UK or US markets.

For the other I have also chosen an investment trust. Kleinwort Benson's Charter, which has a slightly aboveaverage risk rating because it is mainly focused on Europe. Again all income should be reinvested within the PEP for capital growth. This trust is trading at a discount of 14 per cent which I believe represents an excellent huying opportunity for the long term.

of London-based Caroline Banks Associates, was voted 1995 Independent Financial Adviser of the Year. Here he charts an investment course for readers

with £10.000 to invest in 1997 and long-term growth in mind. Any recommendation of an investment portfolio year are: must take into

idual's personal circumstances, their existing invest-ments and financial planning arrange-

However, with £10,000 to invest. and with a slightly speculative attitude to risk (say seven scale), my three nps for the coming

Put £3,500 into to go in. The fund particularly with and some out- years.

account an indiv- Schroder Far East- has ern Growth Unit medium-term track Trust. It invests in a record, and Schrorange of Pacifichased countries its expertise in the with emphasis on Hong Kong and

handover to China in 1997, the signs are still strong for market growth in on a one to ten Hong Kong, and with the recent correction in Japan. now is a good time

Growth of £1,000 over 20 years

der is renowned for

goes into Baring Europe Select Unit Japan. Despite the Trust. Despite the problems inherent in the preparations for the single European currency, I has good prospects, it a new direction

which this fund mance figures. focuses on. The fund has been a consistently good performer over sev-

Another £3,500 eral years. £3,000 could go into Johnson Fry Slater UK Growth Unit Trust, Johninvolvement with feel that Europe the fund has given The fund man-

ager relics on a unique statistical analysis of stock selection, aiming The remaining for companies that are undervalued against particular

indices and ratios. son Fry's recent heen top 10 in the over six months, one, three and five

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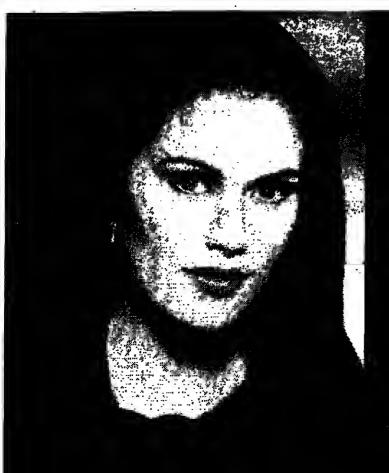
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fear of finance

industry has made of their assets from being further progress in 1996, helped by the fact that most stock-market based investments, especially unit trusts, tracker funds and corporate bonds, have risen in value, and in spite of the shock waves from Morgan Grenfell's European funds, pressure groups like Age which led to a short-term reduction in the amounts Concern want. The Treasury also wants being invested in a number of other managed unit

It was a better year for homeowners, releasing maybe half a million of them from the negative equity trup, and it was a good year for most endowment policies. and pension funds. Many investors who never felt brave enough to look beyond a building society for their sarings will be looking forward to a windfall of shares, and the chances are they will be more likely to retain them than punters vatisation issues in the Eighties, and then cashed them in like betting chips

Many, but not all, management charges have been reduced, although the more exotic trusts still charge 5 per cent upfront before starting to invest any of the money they attract. Many, but not all, credit card com panies have reduced charges in response to increased competition, and household and motor insurance premiagain until the Chancellor gave them a perfect excuse by raising the tax on insurance premiums in the Budget.

I smell disaster, however, in two future changes to the law which will affect personal finance. The Government's proposed bill to allow

investors to take out insurance policies to protect some sold to pay for nursing care or having to go into a home when they are old looks like being scaled down to allow policyholders to protect only £1.50 of assets for each £1 of insurance they buy, not the £2 which most insurers and

the right to scale the cover down still further in the unlikely event that it proves 100 popular and costs the Exchequer too much. It will t a miracle if the proposal per, rades more than a hand ful of families to insure against something 75 per cent of oldies cao already dodge by dying.

I am also concerned that outline proposals for compulsory splitting of all pension funds on divorce will end up making more people unhappy than happy.

It is true that women tend to get the short straw at present, but I am prepared to bet the proposed changes will leave most people poorer, especially if the pensions industry succeeds in its campaign to pass all the costs of splitting and transferring pension funds on to the indiiduals involved.

I see a surge in divorces as the likely losers from pen-sion splits rush to end their failing marriages and limit their future obligations. I also see many injustices when partners who separated some time ago without formally divorcing find that pensions and other assets they huilt up after separation suddenly become targets for their less successful partners

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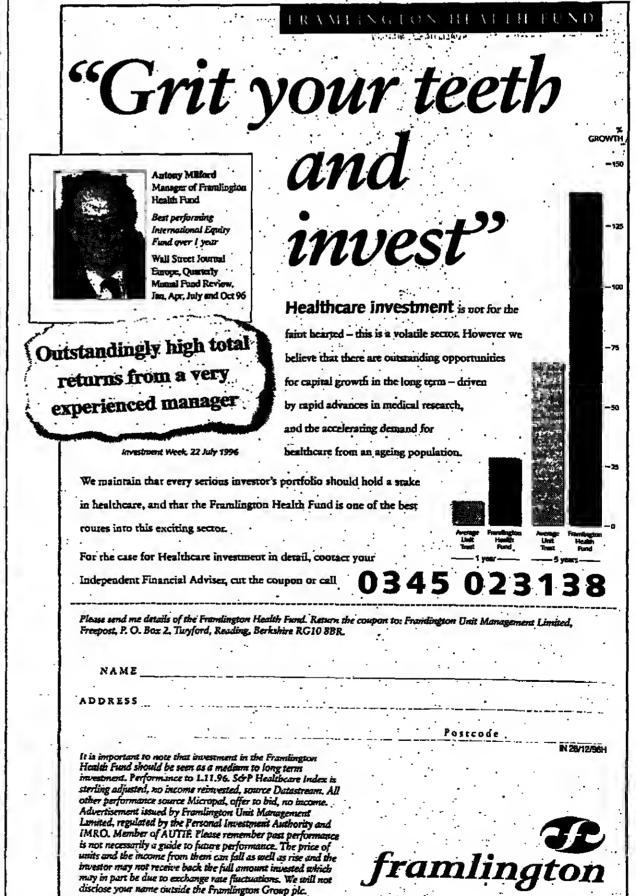
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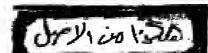
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Film on release

ACTS OF LOVE (18) Dennis Hopper nicely understated in his first real romantic lead, in this small-town

THE ADVENTURES OF PINOCCHIO

ALASKA (PG) Kids' eco-thriller with two children trekking through Alaskar snowscapes to rescue their injured father.

AMERICAN BUFFALO (15) Dustin Hoffman stars in David Mamet's study of small-time crooks

ANTONIA'S LINE (15) (subtitles)

BEAUTIFUL GIRLS (15) Breezy, hitter-sweet romantic comedy about a group of thirtysomething buddies.

LE BONHEUR (EST DANS LE PRE) (15) (subtiles) Underwhelming French farce about the boss of a toilet-seal factory who finds a new loic de vivre

BRASSED OFF (15) Moving drama about the decline of a mining community, as seen through the eyes of the local brass band.

BREAKING THE WAVES (18) Emily Watson gives a towering performance in Lars Von Triers' harrowing epic, set

CHAIN REACTION (12) Brainless and confusing action movie, with Keanu Reeves discovering fusion and setting off a chain of chases and explosions.

A CHINESE GHOST STORY (15) Loopy martial-arts ghost story with effervescent humon and

COURAGE UNDER FIRE (15) Galf War drama, with Denzel Washington trying to decide whether chopper pilot Meg Ryan should be awarded a

THE CRAFT (15) Andrew Fleming's black teen movie about high-

CRIMETIME (18) A TV-show serial killer gets tips from a real psychopath

THE CROW: CITY OF ANGELS (18) Hollow sequel, with Vincent Perez.

DAYLIGHT (12) When motorists get trapped in an underwater tunnel, Sylvester Stallone goes against the clock in a disaster movie for the 90s.

THE DAY OF THE BEAST (18) (subtitles) Gory, off-target black comedy from Spain.

THE DAY THE SUN TURNED COLD (12) (subtitles) A boy accuses his (PG) Mel Brooks's der

DRAGONHEART (PG) Witty slice of SFX-laden hokum.

THE EIGHTH DAY (PG) Cloying

EMMA (U) Gwyneth Paltrow is the ble matchmaker in Hollywood's latest Austen adaptation.

EVITA (PG) Aizn Parker's film of the Tim Rice/Andrew Lloyd Webber played with panache by Madonna, but the film lacks stylistic coherence and

THE FAN (15) De Niro stalks

FAREWELL MY LOVELY (PG) Forties

FARGO (15) Darkiv comic thriller

FEAR (18) Mark Wahlberg fails to convince as a psychopathic Casanova in this slick but grim teen-date thriller. FEELING MINNESOTA (18) Lumpen. loud thriller, with Keanu Reeves as a drifter who hooks up with his brother.

THE FIRST WIVES CLUB (PG)

Midler, Hawn and Kealon exact revenge on their husbands in a popular but filmsy comedy.

FLED (PG) Incompetent re-run of The

GABBEH (NC) (substiles) Good-

THE GLIMMER MAN (18) Wittess Steven Sengal vehicle. A GOOFY MOVIE (15) Goofy does

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS (15) Jodie Foster directs this chilly, unsympathetic comedy about a dysfunctional family.

INDEPENDENCE DAY (12) Alient invade the US in this over-hyped sci-fi

I SHOT ANDY WARHOL (18) Lili Taylor steals the show as violently

1960s Factory. THE ISLAND OF DR MOREAU (12)

Schlock adaptation of HG Wells's sci-fi classic, with Markon Brando, Val JACK (PG) Abominable comedy from Francis Coppola, with Robin Williams playing a 1ti-year-old boy.

JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH (U) Part-enimated adaptation of the

JANE EYRE (PG) Zeffirelli's dull and unsentimental interpretation of Charlotte Bronté's novel.

JINGLE ALL THE WAY (PG) Aroie races to buy his son the season's top toy in this unanusing and

and its

JUDE (15) Perceptive take on Hardy's tragic last novel, with Christopher Eccleston and Kate Wanslet.

KANSAS CITY (15) Altmon's mature and inventive study of 1930s low-life

THE LAST OF THE HIGH KINGS (15) Endearing Irish rites-of-passage comedy with a light touch.

THE LAST SUPPER (NC) Grimly emotive Aids movie in which the camera never leaves the room of the

LONE STAR (15) John Sayles' tightly plotted Tex-Mex murder mystery. THE LONG KISS GOODNIGHT (15)

Vulgar but thrilling action adventure, with Geena Davis as an All-American

MICHAEL COLLINS (15) Liam Neeson is the beroic Irish vis

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (PG) Leaden adaptation of Adrian Noble's RSC production.

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE (PG) Cult

in the 1960s, which overstretches both credibility and sentimentality. **MULTIPLICITY** (12) Intermittently

THE NUTTY PROFESSOR (12) This remake of the 1963 Jerry Lewis comedy classic sees Eddie Murphy as the fat professor who invents a potion to make him into a lithe Lothario.

inspired cloning comedy, starring Michael Keaton as four different

101 DAL MATIANS (ID Writer John Hinghes introduces some Home Alone motifs into this live-action remake of Disney's 1961 animation. Sharp des ann Close's pantomime Cruella De Vil are some compensation for what an otherwise redundant exercise.

THE PILLOW BOOK (18) Eroticism and calligraphy from Peter Green-

IL POSTINO (U) (subtides) Touching ce about a postman's friendship with a poet.

THE ROCK (15) Sean Connery and Nicolas Cage as the first men to break into Alcatraz.



mother of folling his father, in this: Ass.

Sweet Seed: Andy-Garcia plays 5.

ACC Jotenham Couch Road 3.35pm, 9pm

MOT 10:

DRACULA: DEAD AND TOVING IT

ROALD DANUS MATILIA (PG)

DRACULA: DEAD AND TOVING IT

ROALD DANUS MATILIA (PG)

DRACULA: DEAD AND TOVING IT

ROALD DANUS MATILIA (PG) Danny DeVito directs and stars in a hydly coloured, cartoonish adaptation of Dahl, packed with obscene vigour.

> SECRETS AND LIES (15) Mike Leigh's compassionate family saga about a young woman trying to trace

STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT (12) The eighth Trek movie disp with the old crew and drafts in

STEAL BIG, STEAL LITTLE (12) Over-long mess of a movie with Andy

STEALING BEAUTY (15) Liv Tyler plays a girl trying to lose her virginity and find her father in the latest lyrical film from Bertolucci.

STRIPTEASE (15) Risible comic A SUMMER'S TALE (U) (subtitles)

Eric Rohmer's beautil study of the tangled love-affairs of a

SURVIVING PICASSO (15) Anthony Hopkins lets up as the century's great-est artist and most reprehensible lover

A TIME TO KILL (15) Sandra Bullock and Samuel L Jackson emote for their lives in John Grisham's

TIN CUP (15) Kevin Costner is unusually appealing as a gifted but self-destructive golfer.

TOUCH OF EVIL (12) Orson Welles's

TRAINSPOTTING (18) Danny Boyle directs Welsh's blistering portrait of junkie camaraderie.

TRUE BLUE (15) Dull tale of the

Oxford University boat-race mutiny. THROUGH THE OLIVE TREES (U) The third part of Iranian direct Kiarostami's slow-burning but affecting trilogy has villager Hossein landing a part in a film about a local

TWELFTH NIGHT (U)

TWO DAYS IN THE VALLEY (18) Slick, self-negarding comedy a LA, with James Spader.

TWO MUCH (PG) Sloppy, inconsequential comedy with Melanic Griffith embarrassingly stilted as Danyl Hannah's sister, and Antonio Banderas as the duplicitous art dealer

romancing them both. THE UMBRELLAS OF CHERBOURG (PG) Catherine Deneuve discovers she's pregnant by her garage mecha bowfriend in Jacques Demy's 1964 musical charmer. Freshly restored and

THE VAN (15) Final, least satisfying and most ingratiating of the adaptations of Doyle's Dublin trilogy.

WHEN THE CAT'S AWAY (15) (subdtles) A lost cat triggers this deficions tale of love, loneliness and community

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS (PG) In the hands of director Terry Jones Grahame's pastoral classic becomes a

West End

101 Dalmatians (U1 Virgin Fullham Road Sat-Tue-Thu 1.20pm, A.30pm, (6) Opm, R.30pm (not Tue-); Wed 2.20pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm 2.50pm, 4.55pm, 7.15pm, 9.35pm (not Tue-); Wed Barbican 2.30pm (Sat), 3pm (not Sat), 6pm, 8.30pm

Barbican 2.30pm (Sm), spin (see Small Screen on Baker Street 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm (not Tuc) UCi Wheteleys Sai-Wed 10.55am (not Wed), 11.55pm, 2.10pm, 75pm (not Wed), 6.15pm, 75pm (not Wed), 8.40pm (not Tuc) 9.20pm (not Tuc) wiss Cattage Odean Jorn, 3.30pm, 6.30pm

Swiss Cattage Odeon Ipm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm (not Tue), 8.45pm (not Tue), 11.10pm (Sat) Clapham Preture House 2pm (not Wed), 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm (not Tue) Odeon Kersangton 11.45am, 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm (not Tue), 12.10am (Sat) Ritzy 11, 15am (Sat/Mon/Tue), 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 5mm, 8.15pm, (not Tue), Ritzy 11,15am (Sat/Mon/Tue), 1,30pm, 3.45pm, 6pm, 8,15pm (not Tue/The) Odeon Leicester Square 12.45pm, 3.25pm, 6.05pm (not Tue), 8.45pm (not Tue) Acts Of Love 118) ABC Piezaffly (Formerly MGM) 1,30pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8.30pm (not Tue) Warner West End Sat-Wed 5,10pm, 9.40pm 1not Tue)

mia's Line (15) ARC Su L'Atalante (PG)
Ritzy Cinama Sun 2.30pm Zero De Con-

L'Atabanta (PG)
fitty Cinema San 2.30pm Zero De Conduite 3.50pm
Babo (U)
fitty Cinema Sat 10am
Beauthful Gaits (15)
Odeon Kensington 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm
(not Tue), 12.30pm (Sat)
Warner West End 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm,
9.15pm (not Tue)
Le Bonbeur Est Desis Le Pre (15)
Curzon Phoenis 1.30pm (not Sun), 3.45pm,
6.05pm, 8.20pm

Ocean Mezzanne, Leicesser Square Ipin, 330pm, fong (not Tue) Brenking The Waves (18) ABC Shattasbury Avenue 1.25pm, 4.30pm (not The), 7.45pm (not The), 7.45pm (not The), 7.45pm (NC) inzy Cinema Sat 10.20pm; Mon 7.15pm

The Craft (15) Warmer West End Sat/Sun 12midnight The Craw: City Of Angels (18) Warner West End Sat/Son 12miduight The Crow: City Of Angels (18) Virgin Trocadoro Sol 12miduight Day Of The Beast (18) Metro Sat-Mon/Tim 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Daylight (12) ABC Tottenham Court Road 1.30pm, 4.55mm (12)

One False Move (15)
Ritzy Cinema Thu 2pm, 7.20pm
The Pillow Book (15)
Lumlere 12.50pm, 3.25pm, 6pm, 8.35pm
Inot Tue!
Gate Notting Hill 6.25pm
Il Pustino (15)
ABC Swiss Centre 1.25pm, 6.10pm
Secrets And Lies (15) Secrets And Lies (15)
ABC Parton St 2pm. 5pm, 8pm (not Tue) ABG TOGERNAM COURT FOAT 1.50pm, 4.05pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm [not Tue] Empire Leicester Sq 11.30am (not Wed), 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9pm (Tus), 9.30pm (m Tue/Tus), 12midnight (not Tue/Wed) UCI Whiteleys Sat-Wed 11.10um, 1.40pm, Secrets And Hes (15)
ABC Pariton St Zpm. 5pm, 8pm [not Tue)
Sicepers (15)
Virgin Trocadero Thu 5.45pm, 8.45pm
Ritay Cherne Thu 8.40pm
Virgin Haymarket Thu 8.10pm
Virgin Haymarket Thu 8.10pm
Virgin Fuffram Road Thu 4.05pm, 9pm
Virgin Fuffram Road Thu 6pm, 9pm
Virgin Fuffram Road Thu 6pm, 9pm
Virgin Fuffram Road Thu 6.5pm, 9pm
Virgin Fuffram Road Thu 4.45pm, 9pm
Star Treks First Cantact (12)
Ritay 11.40m (Mood Thu), 2pm, 4.20pm,
6.40pm, 9pm [not Tue], 11.15pm (Sai)
Empire Leicaster Square (10.45pm, 6.15pm,
8.45pm (not Tue], 11.30pm (Sai)
Plaza 1.35pm, 4.05pm, 6.15pm, 9.10pm (not
Tue), 11.50pm (Sai)
UCI Whitelegs Sai-Wed 11.05am (not
Wed), 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.25pm (not
Tue)
Virgin Fuffram Road Sai, Tue/Thu Irgin. Old Williamys Sin-Weit Littliam, J.Aopin, 4,10pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm jant Tue; Virgin Trocadero Sai-Tue/Thu 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm (not Tue), 12mid-night (Sai); Wed 1.45pm, 4.35pm, 7.25pm ABC Baker Sireet 1.25pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm (not Tue). ABC Baker Street 1.25pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pt 8.35pm (not Tue Virgin Chelsea 1.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm (not TuerWed) Swiss Coftaga Odeon (.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm (not Tue), 8.40pm (not Tue), 11.10pm (Sar) The Day The Sun Turned Cold (Tlangue

The Day The Sun Turned Cold (Hangue Niezi) (121
ABC Swiss Centre 3.50pm, 8.50pm (not Tue) Deagonheart (PG)
Plaza 1.20pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pm
Ritzy Cinema The 10sm
Emma (Ut)
Odeon Mezzanine, Leicester Sq. 1.05pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm (not Tue), 8.45pm (not Tue)
Evita (PG)
Odeon West End 12.15pm, 1.45pm, 3.15pm, 4.45pm, 6.15pm, 7.45pm (not Tue), 10.7pm; [not Tue), 10.45pm (not Tue), 11.5mm; [sai-Moot], 1.45am (Sai-Moot]
The Exercist (18]
Vign Tracaders Sai 1.2midnight
Fellen Angols (Deobus Tandsir) (18)
Ritzy Criems Tue/Wed 3.25pm, 7pmChungking Express 5.10pm
The Fan (15)
Odeon Mezzanine, Leicester Square SatManufacture 1.5pm, 1.6cester Square SatManufacture 1.6cester Square SatM

The Fan (1.5)
Oteon Mezzanine, Lekcester Square SutMon/Wed/Thn 8.20pm
Farge (18)
ABC Panton Street 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.25pm,
8.50pm (not Tuc)
The First Wives Club (PG)
Versin Tocondern Sat-Tur/Thn 12.05pm The First Wives Club (PG)
Virgin Trocadero Sai-Tue-Thin 12.05pm,
2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm (not Tue),
12midnigh (Sai); Wed 12.45pm, 2.55pm,
5.05pm, 7.30pm
Virgin Fulham Roed Sat-Tue-This 1.40pm,
4pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm (not Tue); Wed
2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm
Odeon Kensington Sai-Mon/Wed/Thin
9.45pm, 12.15pm (Sat)
Errigire Leicester Square 1,15pm, 3.45pm,
6.15pm, 8.45pm (not Tue), 11.30pm (Sat)
The Gälmmer Man [18]

6.15pm, 8.45pm (not Tue), 11.30pm (Sat)
The Gilmmar Man 118;
Warner West End Sat/San 11.50pm
A Goofy Movie (U1)
Odeon Rensington 1.45pm
Ritzy Cinerna Tue (Dam
Independence Day (12)
Swiss Cottage Odeon Sat 11pm,
Odeon Mezzanina, Leitester Sq 2.40pm,
5.30pm (not Tue), 8.25pm (not Tue)
Virgin Trocadero Sat-Wed 12.05pm, 2.55pm,
S.45pm (Sat-Mom), 11.45pm (Sat);
Thu 12.05pm, (Sat-Mom), 11.45pm (Sat);
Thu 12.05pm, (Sat-Mom), 11.45pm (Sat);

Thu 12.05pm Warner West End 2.20pm, 5.30pm, 8.50pm (not Tue), 12midnight [Sat/Sun] 1 Shot Andy Warnel [18] Virgin Haymarket Ipm, 3,30pm, 6pm, K30pm It Came From Outer Space (PG)

It Came From Outer Space (PG)
Ritzy Cinema Sat 10am
Jack (PG)
Ritzy Cinema Toc 10am
Jacquot de Namtes (PG)
Jacres on the Hill Wed Spat
James And The Giant Peach (U1
ABC Tottenhem Court Road 1.45pm
Jingle All The Way (PG)
Plaze 2.20cm. 4.25pm. 6.50cm. 8.80cm Plaze 2.20pm, 4.25pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm (not Tue), 1(.30pm (Sal) Swiss Cottage Odeon 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.05pm

(tot Tue)
Virgin Tracaderu Sai-Tue/Tiw 12.10am,
2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 9pm (noi Tue);
Wed 12.4tpm, 2.45pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm
UCi Whiteleys Sai-Wed 11.70am (not Wed),
1.55pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.75pm (not Tue)
Warner West End 1pm (not Wed), 3.10pm,
6.50pm, 7.20pm, 6.30pm, 6.50pm, 6.50pm, 7.20pm, 5.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.20pm (not Tue). 11.30pm (Su/Sun) Odeon Kensington 12.10pm, 2.25pm. 4.40pm, 7.25pm Odeon Mezzarine, Leicesur square
2.10pm, 4.10pm, 6.10pm (not Tue)
Vigin Chelses (pm, 3.10pm, 5.15pm, 7.20pm
Jude (15)
Odeon Mezzarine, Leicesler Sq 3.10pm,
5.50pm (por Tue), 8.25pm (not Tue)
And Chelses (pm, 6.25pm, 6.25pm, 6.25pm)

Kansas City (15) Chelsea 1.(Opm, 3.4Opm, 6.1Opm, 8.4Opm ABC Steffesbury Avenue 2.4Opm, 5.5Opm, London reps Cheikea 1. (Opm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm, 8.50pm, 8.30pm (not Tue) Rizy Cheina 2.40pm (Sat/Mon), 4.50pm, 8.30pm (not Tue) Rizy Cheina 2.40pm (Sat/Mon), 4.50pm, 7pm (Sat/San) Last Of The High Klags (15) Odeon Kersington Sat 12.05am ABC Tottincham Court Road 6.10pm The Long Kiss Goodnight (18) Wanner West End 1.15pm (not Wed), 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm (not Tue), 12.15am (Sat/San) Odeon Haymarket 2pm, 6pm (not Tue), 8.40pm (not Tue) 12.0pm, 3.05pm, 6pm, 8.50pm (not Tue), 12.0pm, 3.05pm, 6pm, 8.50pm (not Tue), 12.0pm, 8.10pm (not Tue) Rizy Cheena 3.50pm, 9.10pm (not Tue) Wed), 11.40pm (Sat) Swiss Cottage Oteon Sat-Wed 8.25pm, 11.05pm (Sat) Odeon Kensington Sat-Wed 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm (not Tue), 12.5am (Sat) Tue, 9.30pm EVERYMAN

Thu 9.30pm Gate Notting Hill 1.30pm, 9pm (not Tuc).

at) he Nutty Professor (12)

Plaza 150pm, 4.05pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm (not Tuc), 11.43pm [Sat] One False Move (18)

10e) Vigin Fulham Road Sai-Tue/Thu 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm (not Tue); Wed 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm ABC Baker Street 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm,

8.35pm (not Toe)
Empire Leiesster Square 10.45em (not
Wed/The), 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45
(not Tue), 11.30pm (Sar)
Swiss Cottage Odern 1.15pm, 3.45pm,
6.15pm (not Tue), 8.40pm (not Tue),
11.65pm (Sar)
Methion Mile Counted 1.30pm (not Sue)

11.15pm (Sal)
Nothing His Coronel 1.30pm (not Sun),
3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm
Clapham Picture House 4.45pm, 9.15pm
(not The)
ABC Tottlenham Court Road 1.35pm,

ABC Tottenham Court Rose 1.35pm,
4.10pm, 640pm, 9.25pm (nor Tise)
Virgin Trocadero Sat-The/The 1pm, 3.45pm,
6.30pm, 9.10pm (nor Tuc), 12.10am (Sat);
Wed 2.10pm, 4.50pm, 7.30pm
Screen on the Green 3.30pm, 6.20pm,
8.40pm (nor Tipe).

Noting (not 10c) Odeon Kensington 130pm, 4,10pm, 6,50pm, 9,30pm (not Tue), 12,10km (Sat.(Stealing Beauty 115) ABC Panton Street 3,40pm, 8,20pm (not

Tue)
Surviving Picasso (15)
Renoir 12-Styrm, S.2Syrm, 6yrm, 8.3Syrm
UCI Whiteleys Sat-Wed 1pm, 3.4Oyrm,
6.2Syrm, 9.1Oyrm [Sat-Wool)
Virgin Fulbarn Road Sat-Tue/Thu 12-3Oyrm,
3.2Oyrm, 6.1Oyrm, 9yrm (not Tue); Wed
1.SOyrm, 4.5Oyrm, 7.5Oyrm
The Minerra Sat-Moo/Thu 3.2Oyrm, 6pm,
8.3Oorm

Swiss Cottage Odeon)pm, 3.30pm, 6pm Swiss Cottage Odeon)pm, 3.30pm, 6pm [not Tue), 8.30pm (not Tue), 11pm (Sut) Virgin Haymariat 2.15pm, 5.10pm, 8.05pm Screen on Saker Street 3pm, 5.55pm,

Screen on Saker Street 3pm, 3.35pm, 3.35pm, 3.30pm, 100 Toe]
Ritzy Carema 1.10pm (not Wed), 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm (not Tree), 11.25pm (Sat)
Warmer West End 12.40pm (not Wed),
3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm (not Tree),
11.40pm (Sat/Sun)
Through The Olive Traes (U)
Report 7pm, 2.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

Warner West End 12toom (not Wed), 3pm. tpm, 9pm (not Tue), 12.05mm (Sat/Sun) Twelfth Night (U)

The Umbrellas Of Cherbourg (PG)
Ruchmond Plimhouse Spm, 5.30pm, 8pm
Barbican Cherna Spen, 6.15pm, 8.40pm
Curron Maylair 1.45pm (not Sun), 4pm,

o.13pm. o.4pm Screen on the Hill Sar-Tuc/Thu 3pm. 5pm, 7.05pm, 9.05pm (not Tuc); Wed 2.55pm, 7.15pm, 9.05pm The Van (15)

The value (15)
ABC Partino Street 1.15pm, 3.30pm,
5.45pm, 8.15pm (not Tue)
Warner West End 1.2.5pm (not Wed),
2.30pm, 7.30pm (not Tue/Thu)
When The Cat's Away (15)
Clapham Picture House 2.30pm (not Wed),
2.45pm

7.15pm ABC Swiss Centre 1.40pm, 3.40pm, 6pm,

8.30pm (not Tuc) The Wind in The Willows (U)

The wind in the windows (c) Odeon Kersington 2.15pm Ritty Cinema The 10em Withhalf & I (15) Curzon West End 1.40pm (not Sum), 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm

ABC Swiss Centre 1.15pm, 6.10pm The Umbrellas Of Cherbourg (PG)

(40pm (not Tuc)

845pm A Time To Kill (15)

EVERYMAN

Hollybush Lane, NW3 (0171-435 1525) Saturday 28 Angels And Insects (18) 2.20pm,
6.45pm + Emms (U) 4.25pm, 8.50pm
Sunday 29 Cronsca Di Un Annore (Story Of
A Love Affair) (15) 1.05pm L'Avventura
(PGI 2.57pm Fargo (18) 5.25pm, 9.15pm
The Usual Suspects (18) 7.20pm
Monday 30 Day for Hight (PG) 2.20pm,
8.50pm + The Last Metro (12) 4.35pm +
Jules Et Jim (PG) 6.55pm
Tuesday 31 Les Enfants Du Paradis (PG)
1.15pm, 6.30pm + The Resulv and the 10estary 3.1 Less Elimines out 1 and the Beast (PG) 4.45pm Wednesday 1 Smoke (1.5) 5.10pm, 9pm +

Wednesday 1 Smoke (1.5) 5.10pm, 9pm +
Bloe in the Face 115) 7.20pm Delicatessen
(15) 1pm + Dwa 115) 2.50pm
Thursday 2 Alphaville (PC) 1.30pm, 7pm +
Picrot Le Fou (15) 3.20pm, 8.50pm + Une
Femme est une Femme (18) 5.30pm + Flesh
3.45pm, 9.10pm + Wumen m Revoli
5.35pm

ICA CINEMA The Mall, SWJ (017)-930 3647) Thursday 2 Gabbeh Thu, Fri 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Patrick Kelller Shorts Thu, Fri 6.30pm, 8.30pm

NATIONAL FILM THEATRE

This 9.30pm
Gate Nothing Hill 1.30pm, 9pm (not Tuc),
11.30pm (Sat)
Virgin Chelsea Sut-Mon/This 9.20pm
Lone Star (15)
ABC Pretailly (Formerly MGM) 2pm,
5.10pm, 8pm (not Tuc),
7.10pm, 8pm (not Tuc)
Roald Dahr's Maridia (PG)
Virgin Trocaders Sat-Tuc/This 1.205pm,
2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm (not Tuc);
Wed 11.35pm, 2.5pm, 5pm, 7.20pm
Warner West End 12.20pm (not Wed),
2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.10pm (not Tuc),
11.30pm (Sat/Sun)
Odeon Kansington 2.05pm, 4.35pm, 7.05pm,
9.35pm (not Tuc/This)
Virgin Chelsea 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm,
7.05pm, 9.25pm (not Tuc/Wed)
Clapham Picture House 2.15pm (not Wed),
4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm (not Tuc)
UCl Whiteleys Sat-Wed 11.20am, 1.45pm,
4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9pm (not Tuc)
Swiss College Odeon 1.25pm, 4pm, 6.20pm
(not Tuc), 8.50pm (not Tuc)
Rity Cineria 11.50am (not Sun/Wed),
1.55pm, 4pm, 6.05pm, 8.05pm (not Tuc)
Michael Collens (15)
Virgin Fulham Road Mon/Tuc/This 2.30pm,
4pm, 6.05ms, 6pm, 8.50pm; Wed 2pm,
5pm, 8pm
Warner West End 12.15pm (not Wed),
2.50pm, 5.40pm, 6pm, 6.50pm; Wed 2pm,
5pm, 8pm
Warner West End 12.15pm (not Wed),
2.50pm, 5.40pm, 6pm, 8.50pm; Wed 2pm,
5pm, 8pm
Warner West End 12.15pm (not Wed),
2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm 1not Tuc),
11.20pm (Sat/Sun)
Mission: Impossible (PG) NATIONAL FILM THEATRE
South Bank SEJ (0171-633 02744c; 928,3232)
Saturday 28 August (PG) 4pm In Search of the Crastways (U) 4.10pm Stargate (PG) 5.50pm Missed Delights 3; Wodehouse Season 6,15pm The Perez Family (15) 7.30pm Independence Day (12) 8.15pm Young at Heart (1954) 8.30pm Sunday 29 Independence Day (12) 3.40pm in Search of the Castaways (U) 4pm Holiday Inn (U) 5.15pm Germany, Pale Mother (15) 6.30pm Little Women (U) 7.30pm The Perez Family (15) 8.30pm The Silence Of The Lambs (18) 8.45pm Monday 30 August (PG) 2.30pm, 6.30pm The Girl on the Bont from The Perez Family (15) 8.40pm Anchorest (12) 8.45pm Tuesday 31 August (PG) 4pm Little Women (U) 4.15pm Wednesday I The Secret Of Roan Inish (U) 45pm/Or No (PG) 4.10pm Serpico (18) 5pm Fing Russia With Love (PG) 6.30pm 4.55pm Thursday 2 August (PG) 2.30pm 11pm defeate (PG) 4.0pm

8.45pm Thursday 2 August (P 2.30pm Thunderball (PG) 6.10 toger and Me (15) 6.15pm 8 1/2 (15) 30pm Without Love 8.30pm Clerks (18)

2 Sea of Love (18) 2.30om The Ge Folgry 3 Sea of Love (18) 2-30pm the un-ritar Sisters (15) 6.15pm The Typowriter, "3De Rife and The Movie Camera 6-20pm Marrie 7-30pm Park Row 7-40pm Dog Day Albertroon 8-30pm The Steel Helmet PHOENIX CINEMA

High Road, N2 (1181444 6789)
Saturday 28 II Postino (15) Sat e. Jupen:
Sun 5.45pm Breaking The Waves (18) Sat
8.45pm; also Sun 8.10pm, Mon-The 5.25pm
Monday 30 Lone Star (15) 8.30pm, also
Wed, Thu 8.30pm
Finday 3 The Umberllas Of Cherhourg (PE)
3mm, 5cm, 7cm, 9cm RIO CINEMA Kingshed High Street. Ex (017). 254 6677) Saturday 28 The Wind in The Willows (U) Ham 101 Dalmatians (U) Sa-Tue, Wed. Thu 2pu. 4.15pm. 6.30pm. 8.45pm (not Tue) The Goddather Part II (18) (1.15pm Friday 3 Evila (PG) 2.30pm. 5.30pm. 8.30pm

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Rd, W6 (0161-741 2255-017) 420 0100) Saturday 29 Materian (2001) becca (PG) 8.30pm Sunday 29 Red Desert (15) opm + Sunday 29 Red Desert (15) opm + L'Avenature (PG) 8.20pm Monday 30 The Lady Vanishes (PG) 6.45pm + The 39 Steps (PG) 8.45pm Thursday 2 The Big Steep (15) Thu/Fri 6.45pm + Farewell My Lovely (PG) 9pm

Regional reps

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON

DARG OF VORRS (01273-625/kc 60:503)

Saharday 28 Alaska (PGI 11:30am The Van
(15) Sat, Sun, Mon, Thu 3:30pm, 9pm; also
The 3:30pm, Wed 9pm Brassed Off (15) SatThu 6:45pm James And The Glant Peach (U)

Sal 1:30pm; also San 11:30am, 1:30pm
Monday 30 The Adventures Of Pisocchio
(U) Mon, Tae 11:30am, 1:30pm
Wednesday 1 The Wind In The Wildows (U)

Wed 3pm, 5pm; also Thu 11:30am, 1:30pm
Friday 3 A Midstammer Night's Deaam (PG)
Frid 2pm, 6:45pm The Umbreibs Of Cherbourg (PG) Frid 3:30pm, 9pm

BRISTOI

BRISTOL BRISTOU.
WATERSHED (0117-925 3845)
Saturday 28 Ermma (U) Sat-Mou 3pm,
5.45pm; also Thu 3pm, 5.30pm Michael
Collins; (15) Sat-Mon, Thu 8.10pm Kanass
City (15) Sat-Mon, Thu 8.20pm Brassed.
Off (15) Sat-Mon, Thu 8.20pm, Brassed.
Friday 3 pm off The Beast (18) 5pm, 6pm,
Friday 3 pm off The Beast (18) 5pm, 6pm,
8.20pm Beastiful Girls (15) 6pm, 8.10pm

GAMDRIDGER
ARTS CINEMA (01223-57:2929)
Saturday 28 The Nutaracker (U) (1am
Kansas City (1.5) Sat-Mon, Thu 4pm, 9pm;
also Tue 4pm, Wed 9pm, Fri 2pm, 11.5pm
Tweitht Night (U) Sat 6:30pm; also SunTue, Thu 1.30pm; also Wed 4pm A Midsummer Night's Dream (PG) Sat 1.30pm;
also Sun-Thu 4.30pm; also Suo-Thu 6.30pm Friday 3 Kansas City (15) 2pm, 11.15pm

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (101-1-9-000)
Shurday 28 Superhaser (1.5) Set-Moor Julyon
Sunday 29 Glengurry Glen Ross (1.5) Spur
Transday 2 Reaster City (1.5) Thu Fri
Radyon R Postino (1.5) Thu Fri
Gabbet The 2-30pm, 7-30pm; Fri 7-30pm

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (III 222-309666)

IPSWICH
IPSWICH FILM THEATRE (1)1472-215542]
Sahndry 28 City Of Lost Children (15)
Apra, 8 Lison Shashing Bassiny (1,5) & Lison
Thursday 2 The Wind in The Wildows (U)
Thur Fri 2 Upra, 6 Lison Boston Kickovi
(1,8) The/Fri span The Snapper (1,5) Thu/Fri
8 Lison Touch Of Evel (1,2) Thu/Fri 8,30pm
Frictiny 3 Boston Kickovi (1,8) 8,15pm
Frosch Of Evel (1,2) 8,30pm The Wind in
The Wildows (U) 2,30pm, 6,15pm The
Snapper (1,5) Apra

NORWICH NORWILLT: CINEMA CITY (01603-627047) Saturday 28 Secrets And Use (15) 5-30pm. 8.15pm Twister (PG) 2.34pm Sunday 29 The Crossing Guard (18) 5pm Millou on Mai (15) 7.30pm Monday 30 Andepandence Day (12) Mon, Monday 30 Andepandence Day (12) Mon, Millou on Mai (139 7.-9pm Mondry 30 Independence Day (12) Mon, The 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm; also Wed 2.30pm, 5.45pm, Thu 5.45pm; Fn 2.30pm Wadnesday 1 Stanling Beauty (15) Wed 8.15pm; also Thu 2.50pm, 8.15pm, Fri 5.45pm, 8.15pm Friday 3 Chopper Chicks in Zombie Town 11pm Stanling Beauty (15) 5.45pm, 8.15pm Independence Day (12) 2.30pm

PLYMOUTH

London locals WARNER VILLAGE

WARNER VILLAGE
(1181-8% Olde) & Park Royal
101 Dalmatians 10.30am, 11am, 1pm,
1.50pm, 3.30pm, 4.2tipm, bpm, 6.50pm,
9.30pm, 11.50pm (Satt
Dayfight 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, opm,
11.40pm (Sat)
First Whens Cleib Sat-Wed 7.20pm, 9.50pm
Single All The Way 11.10am, 1.40pm,
4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm
The Long Riss Goodelight 1.10pm, 3.50pm,
7.15pm, 9.40pm
Read Dahl's Mathida 10.50am, 1.30pm,
4.pm, 6.30pm, R.50pm
Sleepacs Thm a Ubyen, 9.15pm
Sleepacs Thm a Ubyen, 9.15pm,
Star Traks: First Contact 11.33am, 12.40pm,
2pm, 3.20pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 8.10pm,
N.81pm 9.30pm, 1.2midnight 15att

BROMLEY

ODEON (0181-315 4211) BR: Bromley North
101 Dalmatians Str 11.35am, 2pm, 4.40pm,
705pm, 9.50pm; Sun-Thu 1pm, 3.35pm,
6.10pm (not Tue), 8.50pm (not Tue)
Single Al The Way Str 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 5.40pm;
Sun-Thu 12.30pm (not Sun/Thu), 2.35pm,
4.50pm (not The), 6.40pm (not Tue/Thu)
The Long Kiss Goodnight Sat 7.35pm,
6.55pm; Sun-Thu 8.45pm (not Tue/Thu) 9.55pm; Sun-Thu 8.45pm (ant Tue:Thn) Roald Dahl's Matilda Sat 12.10pm, 2.35pm seems Dahr's mention Sat (2.10m), 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.30pm, 10pm; Sun-Thu 11.45pm (not San/Tue), 2.05pm, 4.25pm, 6.45pm (not Tue), 8.45pm (not Tue) Star Trole First Contact Sat 11.50am, 2.25pm, 5pm, 7.25pm, 9.50pm; Sun-Thu 12.45pm, 7.25pm, 6.05pm (not Tue), 8.45pm (not Tue)

CROYDON CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) 8R-Crossdon Wes/East
Emma Sun 3pm
Roald Dahl's Matilda Sat-Tue/Thy 11am
(not Sat), 1pm, 3pm (not Sun), 5pm, 7pm
(not Tue)

EALING EALING
ABC NORTHFIELDS AVE. (0181-567 1075)
BR/96 Ealing Broadway/46 Northficks
The Adventures Of Pinocchio L-45pm, 4pm
First Wives Club 6.L5pm, 8.45pm (not Tue)
The Hunchback Of Notre Dame Sat/Sun
(.45pm, 4pm)

VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0181-235 3003) BR/O Ealing Broadway 101 Dalmatians Sat-Tue/Thu) 1.50am, 101. Dammansan san-1 ner/ tim J. (200m.) 2. Hopm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm (not Tue); Wed J. 20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.15pm Daylight Sai-Tue/Thm 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm (not Tue); Wed J. 45pm, 4.5pm, 7.45pm Jingle All The Way Sai-Tue/Thu 12.30pm, 5mm Wed J. 20pm, 5mm

Star Trek: First Contact Sat-Tue/Thu 230pm, 7pm, 9.30pm (not Tue); Wed 3.30pm, 8pm HARROW WARNER (IDEI-4279944) & Hannow on the Hol 101, Dalmatians (1.20am (not Wed), 12.25pm (not Wed), 1.20pm (not Wed), 2.45pm, 3.40pm, 5.05pm, 6pm, 7.20pm (not Tuc), 8.30pm (not Tuc), 9.40pm (not Tuc), 11pm (Sat)

Daylight 12-40pm (not Tuc), 3.15pm, 6.25pm, 9pm (not Tuc), 11.15pm (not Tuc), The First Wives Club 7pm (not Tuc), 19-20pm (not Tuc)Tue), 11-50pm (Sat) Jaige All The Way I Ripm (not Wed), 3.0pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm (not Tuc) 11.20pm (Sat) Leng Kim Goodnight 12.00pm (not Wed), 3pm, 8.50pm (not Tuc) Tuc), 9.0pm (not Tuc) Tuc), 9.0pm (not Wed), 3pm, 6.50pm (not Wed), 3pm, 6.5pm, 6.5pm, 6.5pm, 8.5pm Read Dehr's Menide 11, 30am (not Wed), 1.45pm (not Wed), 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm (not Tue), 11.10pm, 15ar) Stapers The 7pm, 9.55pm Star Trek: First Contact 11, 20am (not Wed), 1.30pm (not Wed), 2pm, 4.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm, 9.50pm (not Tue), 11.45pm (Surt

ILFORD

ILFORD

ODEON (01/81-315 42231 & Coants Hall

ODEON (01/81-315 42231 & Coants Hall

ODEON (01/81-315 42231 & Coants Hall

10. Dalentalarie Sait 12.50pcs, 3.25pcs, 6.25pcs, 8.55pcs, 6.25pcs, 8.35pcs, 12.5pcs, 8.55pcs

The Adventures Of Pinocchie Sait 11.30gcs

Daylight Sait 1.25pcs, 3.30pcs, 6.10pcs, 6.10pcs

fact Tac), 8.45pcs (10.57pcs, 1.35pcs, 6.10pcs

fact Tac), 8.45pcs (10.57pcs, 1.35pcs, 6.10pcs

fact Tac), 8.45pcs (10.57pcs, 1.35pcs, 6.10pcs)

Designificant Sait 1.44ccs

(not Tac), R-Mynn (not Tuc)
Dragmheart Sai 14 Myn
Jangia All The Way Sat-Thu Ipm, 3 Mynn,
5 Mynn (not Iuc)
The Long Miss Goodnight Sat-Wed R-Mynn
Roadd Dala's Matilide 12-Mynn, 3 Mynn,
S-Mynn (not Tuc), 8 Mynn (not Tuc)
Shopeas Thu 7 Allyan
Star Trake First Contact Sai 1 Mynn,
4 Mynn, 9 Mynn, 9 Mynn; Sun-Thu 12 Mynn,
Apm, nynn (not Tuc), Mynn (not Tuc)
MANGEON.

KINGSTON OPTIONS (#181-546 #4041 BR Kingston 101 Dalmatians 1.15cm, 3-kings to 15cm) tans 1.15pm, 3.4tpm, 6.15pm. S. Alpen Jacot Tue (
Daylight 2.15pm, 5.35pm, 8.15pm Jacot Tue)
Jingle All The Way J.25pm, 6.10pm
Star Treb: First Contact 3.35pm, 8.20pm

RICHMOND ODEON (DBH: 315 4216) BR-49 Richmund
101 Dalmatlans [.15pm | Toe], 4pm | The],
0.45pm | mot Wedt, 9.30pm | mot Wedt|
Daylight | jun | (Tue), 4.30pm | fue),
0.5pm | mot Wedt,
Roald Dah's Mattida [.30pm | fue, 5.50pm |
(Tue), 6.30pm | mot Wed),
9.30pm | mot Wed),

ROMFORD ROMFORD

ABC (01788-743438) BR: Remiord.

101 Dalmatlans Sat-Mon Wed The
1.15pm, 3.45pm, n.15pm, 8.40pm; Tue
12.15pm, 2.35pm, 4.45pm
Budght Sat-Mon Wed The 1pm, 3.25pm,
1pm, 8.30pm; Toe 11.55am, 2.20pm, 4.45pm
Jingle All The Way Sat-Mon Wed The
1.25pm, 6.20pm; Tue 12.55pm, 5.10pm
Star Trek: First Contact Sat-Mon Wed The
3.55pm, 8.20pm, Tue 2.45pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (111704-729040) BR: Romford 101 Dahnatians 11,30am (not Wed),

BE: Remford
10. Dafmatians 11.30cm (not Wed),
12.45pm, 145pm, 3.15pm, 4.15pm, 5.40pm
(not Tue), 6.40pm (not Tue), 8pm (not
Tue), 9pm (not Tue),
2pm (not Tue)
Daylight Sai 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 7pm, 9pm;
Sun-Thu 12.50pm, 3.25pm, 6pm (not Tue),
2.35pm (not Tue)
Dragonheart Sai 11.05am
The First Wiese Club Sai 1.15pm, 3.45pm,
7.20pm, 9.40pm, Sun-Thu 1.10pm, 3.40pm,
6pm (not Tue), 8.30pm (not Tue)
A Goody Movie Sai 11.05am
Jack Sai 10.05am
The Jack Sai 11.05pm, 4pm,
6.45pm, 9.30pm; San-Thu 12.50pm, 4pm,
6.55pm, 9.30pm; San-Thu 12.50pm, 3.20pm,
5.55pm (not Tue), 8.30pm (not Tue)
Roald Daff's Mathida 11.15am (not Wed),
1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm (not Tue), 8.45pm,
(not Tue)
The Nutty Professor Sai 11.05am
The Santa Claute Sai 11.05am

Star Trek: First Contact Sai 1,30pm, 4,30pm, 7pm, 9,30pm; Sun-Thu Ipm, 3,35pm, 6,10pm (not Tuc), 8,40pm (not Tuc) UXBRIDGE

3-00-cm ODEON (01425-931395) & Uxbridge 101 Debratians 11,20am (not Wed), 1,30pm, 3.55pm, 6.45pm (not Tue) Roald Debr's Mattide 11,40am (not Wed), 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm (not Tue)

Anthony Hopkins shows his versatility (and his tonsure) by impersonating the 20th century's greatest visual artist in 'Surviving Picasso'

11.1 41 14 11

Into Battle for a bit of English history

1066 and all that? Revisit the site of the famous encounter, suggests Simon Calder

ou probably have your own per-sonal agenda for New Year's Day, but perhaps you could entertain the following proposition. The Nor-mans attacked at dawn - and to maximise the chance of encountering the battlefield in blissful isolation, so can you.

This 1 January, dozens of English Heritage properties will be opening to the public for the first time on a New Year's Day. A good question to pose is: why have Day. A good question to pose is: why have they not been open on the bank holiday in the past? After all, in many parts of the world tourist attractions keep going 365 days a year. But this is England, where propriety dictates that most people stay behind closed doors. Perhaps it is the liberal influence of Europea but this New Year the ence of Europe, but this New Year the leash is being loosened a notch.

So how to make the most of the new freedom? Without wishing to be 100 prescriptive. I suggest you resolve to catch the first train of the day from Charing Cross to Battle in Sussex. The service leaves London at 8.10 on New Year's morning, and a day return will cost £12.90.

It is important to travel by train because you will be deposited at a folly. What looks like an austere Scots chapel schoolhouse, all formal granite, was installed when the railway carved through the South Downs

150 years ago.
With a pause for puff half-way up on the haul to the town of Battle itself, you should get to the front gate of the most sig-nificant site in English history.

Those gentle Sussex meadows that slide iway towards the coast were once the killing fields. King Harold and his army, bedraggled and fatigued after the battle of Stamford Brook, sped south to confront the Normans who had landed at Hastings.

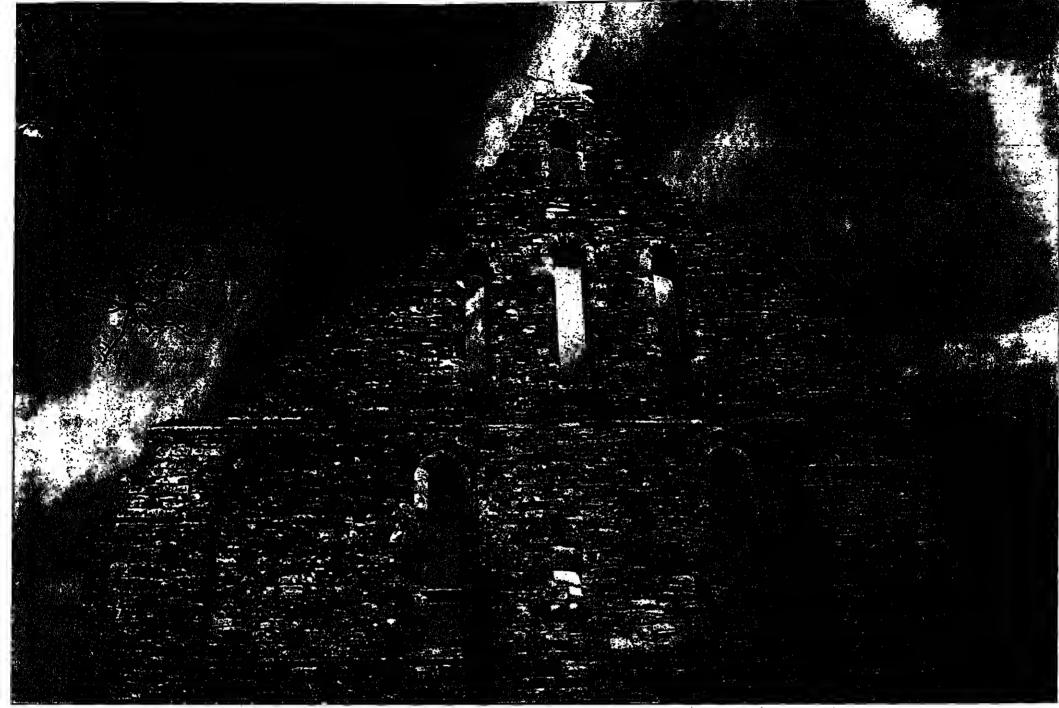
The rest, as they say, is English history: remember 14 October 1066, and all that? English Heritage has attacked with imagination the problem of how best to present the site of the famous battle. An unohtrusive audio system guides you around the serene slopes with a succession

Some of the actors sound worryingly like members of Eastbourne Rep, but the stories pierce the barrier of comprehension you are taken to each part of the battlefield, and can interpret the conflict from both

While you are trying to make sense of all this, the ghostly angles of Battle Abbey are bearing down from the north. William 1 sealed his victory by building the Bene-dictine Abbey of St Martin on the high ground where the Saxons were slaughtered. You could continue the day by explor-

in Sussex, such as Worth Abbey and Holy Trinity Church in Bosham. Or, alternatively, you could just settle down of Ye Olde King's Head (founded 1421), order a large Scotch and 20 Roth-mans and do battle with those good reso-

ing other notable Saxon and Norman sites



Standing the test of time: Battle Abbey in Sussex, near to the site of the battle of Hastings

Five other New Year's Days out

Tintagel Castle (01840 770328): the location, clinging to the wild north coast of Cornwall, is even more impressive than the legends of King Arthur (said to have been born here) and Merlin - whose cave you can visit. Adults £2.50, children £1.30.

Carisbrooke Castle (01983 522107): the donkey that works the 18th-century treadmill at this 1,000-year-old site may get the day off on 1 Jan, but the rambling castle at the heart of the Isle of Wight is still great fun. Adults £3.80, children £1.90.

Kenilworth Castle (01926 852078): they don't make ruins like this any more. The Norman foundations and subsequent additions were well and truly trashed inthe Civil War, and now comprise the best pile of old stooes in the Midlands. Adults £2.50, children £1.30.

Goodrich Castle (01600 890538); in contrast to Kenilworth, this 12thcentury red sandstone fortress is in excellent shape, and great fun for rummaging around. Adults £2.20. children £1.10.

Wroxeter Roman City (01743 761330): just outside Shrewsbury, this is the excavated remains of the fourth-largest Roman city in Britain. Adults £2.50, children £1.30.

Park the car and stride out into the fresh air

BEDFORDSHIRE 2s Dec: WOBURN, 10.30am, car park 28 Dec. WOBURN, 10.30am, car park topp church, 8 mk, D. 01908 884348, 20 Dec. 14, TON, 10 am, Warden Hill Rd tott Act, 5½ mk 10,582 884583, 30 Dec. WOBURN SANDS, 10.30am, Russell Street car park, 5-6 mks, D. 01852 743412 (d) or 01462 672906 [e], 31 Dec. BIG-GIFSWADE, 10.30am, Dan Albune car park, 4-mk, D. 01852 743412 [d) or 01462 672906 [e], 1 Jan; CLOPHILL, 11 am, The Green, 4-mk, D. 01852 860030, 10 "SSTABLE, 10 am, car park adjacent to pelice station, 6-mk, 13, AVNES, 10.56am, Village Hall, 6-mk, 1), 10582 743412 [d) or 01462 672906 [e].

BERKSHIRE NOW STREATTEN, SAME NT car

ici I Jan WolkinGHAM, Riam, Gregoth a ast side of Denmark Street, 4 mb. 1918 1971[5] N. Dice HASHIJ J.D.F.N. 1918 1971[5] N. Dice HASHIJ J.D.F.N. 1972 1973 48449. J. Spin, village car park, 5 or 19 mb. 11 (1494 53449). WENDON TR. 10 Goath, library car park, High Street, 6 mb. 12 (1494 5449). WENDON TR. 10 Day 1977. J. Jan. AVLES, RI RI. 16 8 66m, ranked station forecome, 6 mb. 12 (1295 27717. GREAT AUSSEN) IN 11 am. village car park, 7-8 mb. D. (1494 43696).

CAMERIDGESHIRE
5-10-1 ARROTTS RIPTON, Blum Line
6-10-2 ARROTTS RIPTON, Blum, D. 101-8-0
6-4-75 PHAS, GIPILLIEN MORDEN,
19-00. Shutch, 17-mls, D. 101-82, 7-83-812 (Sam. church, 17 mis, D. 10582 743412 off or 10462 6729th, CASTOR, Heart and 1.30pm, old radway station, 9 mls or 4.5 mis, (4733 52006 to)

New ACTON BRIDGE, Illam, parish follow park, Son Herds, D. 2001, parish half cas park, Son Herds, D. 2001, parish half cas park, Son Herds, D. 1928; 55720. CONRETTON EDGE, L. Shym. Conjection library car park, 6 mls, 01:006 57220 (c), POPNITON, 2.30pm, car park of rop of Prod House Rd, Higher Pownton, Smis, D. 01025 873089, 91:00c. ASTON, 2001, chunch, 5 mls, D. 01025 75750, 2001, c), C, L. CHETH, 10am, Pack Rosselini, Charch Lane, 5 or Ill mls, D. 01025 75312, 31; Des. GREAT BARROW, 94:5-mls, 10am, Millstone Lot, GREATH, WHIT-LEY, Plan, Millstone Lot, Grimsdach Lane, west off A40, 5 or Ill mls, D. 01028 575726, HIGHER WHITLEY, 20m, Millstone Lot, Grimsdach Lane, west off A40, 5 or Ill mls, D. 01028 575726, HIGHER WHITLEY, 20m, Millstone Lot, Grimsdach Lane, west off A40, 5 mls, D. 01028 575726, Ill Jan. DARESSELRY, 20m, charch, 5 mls, D. 01028 575726. YOU ACTON BRIDGE, Ulam, parish

28 Dec. LUDGVAN, IRGham, Castle Gaie, 8 mls. 01736 08282, 29 Dec. MEVAGISSEY, 12 nova, car park at end of quary, 5 mls. 01637 878707, 57 IVES LEL ANT LUQUIN, Elaketroup Pub-car park. 372 mls. D. 01736 752121, 57 KEVERNE, 10.381m, village square, 10 mls. 13 not226 20002, 20 20 20 21

car park (by church), 4 mls, D. 01326 372462. 1 Jan: HAYLE/LELANT, L. Opm, NT car park. Trencrom Hill, 5 or 21 mls. D. 01736 752121. PENRYN-BUDOCK, 10,30am, Treverva lay-by, 10 mls, D. 01326 340728.

DEMOVSHINE.
23 Dec HATHERSAGE, 9.30am, Long-shawear park, Fox House, 8 mk, D. 0114 27800 (e). MAYFIELD. 10.35am, Bus Statum, o mk, D. 01063 732706, 29 Dec ASTON UPON TRENT, 9.45am for Hun start, roadside near village, 92, mls. MATLOCK, 18am, station car park, 10 mls, 0.01629 SNSNS, MONYASH, 82 mls, 11.2ml 2.73,238 (e), 30 Dec BAN-FORD, 18am, Fartholmes Plantation, 3 mls, 11.2ml 2.73,339 (e), LTTLE EATON, 11am, Juny 2.00, 12.71 EATON, 11am, Juny 2.00, 12.71 EATON, 11am, Juny 3.00, 12.71 Ham, charch, 6 mis, D. 0115 9302554. I Jan. CHRCIME HILL. 10 mis, 01025 425497 (c). OAKERTHORPE, 9.45am, Anchor Ima, 6 or 9 mis, D. OAKER-THORPE, 1 Juyan, Anchor Ima, 3 mis, D. Contact as previous walk.

DEVON

Note: TOTINES, 10.30am, The Plains, outside NT shop, 51; mls. D. 01903
210020 (dl. CREDITON, 10am, Lord's Meadow, 8 mls. D. 01302 413073
TEIGINMOUTH, 9.00m, Lower Woodway Rd, 5 or 7 mls. 12 01803 292609. 1
Jun: SOUTH MOLTON, 11am, Hasche Lane, 012 mls. D. 01271 42303 TOTINES, Rham, Totines Borough car park, 51; mls, D, a 01803 865244.

1 Jan: WEST AUCKLAND, 11.45am, Rayal Oak lay-by on AAS, 9 miles north west of Darlington, 51; mb, D. 01325 321108.

A Dec: HADLETGH, 10am, John Bur-Times Recreation Ground car park, 4 mls, D. 01702 552241. 28 Dec: THAXTED. Nam. 1980 1. 3 Dec 11 1. A TED. 11 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1. 12 1 GREAT EASTON, 10,30 m., Swan pub, 4 mls, 01708 509935.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE GLOUGESTERSHIRE

28 Dec: WHITESHILL, 10am, The
Whaklastiers, 5 mls, 01242 074470, 20

Dec: SEVEN SPRINGS, 10am, The
Hungry Horse (formerly 7 Springs
Hotel), 5 mls, D. 81452 85900, 30 Dec
NORTHE EACH, 10am, Marker Place, 5
6 mls, 01451 801864, 31 Dec: WOODCHESTER, 10am, A46 kay-by, South
Woodchester, 5 mls, 01453 873625, 1 Jan;
FAIRFORD, 10.155m, car park at north woodenever, 5 mis 04-58 87-525, Uart FAIRFORD, 10.15-am, car park at north end of Fairford Market Place, 5 mls, 01-78 86-2032 (e). SOUDLEY, 10.30am, Forest Enterprise car park, top end of Soundey Pomis, access off minor rd between Littledean and Soudley, 49-mls, D. 01594 843-380 mis, D. 01594 843389,

29 Dec ALTON, 10 30am, Medstead village (roadside by church), 9 mls, D. 01323 417525 [e]. SHAWFORD DOWN, 10.40am, car park, 6 mls, D. 01329 232027. 1 Jan. BROCKENBURST, When the state of the part of the property of the part of the par



The great outdoors: Wicklow Mountains, near Sally Gap in Co Wicklow, Ireland

206771. DIBDEN PURLIEU: BEAULIEU. 10. Yam, Hilliop on B. 1054 (follow Exbury sign to Moonhills car purk), 41 ; mk, D. 11703 843285.

HEREFORD & WORCESTER
29 Dec: DUNSTALL CASTLE
(FOLLY), 10am, or Deflurd, Persbore,
off A4104 on Croome Estate, 41,25 mls,
D. 01386 446538.

HERTFORDSHIRE 31 Dec. POTTEN END, 10am, village preem, 5 mls. 01532 668R24. 1 Jan. DIGSWELL. 10.30mm, Welwyn North Station. 101; mls. D. 0181 449 2139. RO'STON. Ithm. Heath Sports Centre car park, Therfield Heath, Baldock Rd. 5 mls. D. 01763 242677.

ESLE OF WIGHT 28 Dec CARISBROOKE, 10am, Carde, 5 mb, D.01963 853704 or 01983 566726.

KENT
29 Dec: ASHURST, 10am, lay-by on south side of A.D4 just west of railway bridge, 5-6 mls, D. 01872 740300, 30 Dec: TOABRIDGE, 11am, Watergate, High Street (or castle), 5-6 mls, D. 22 01732 366CO, 1 Jan; BIGGIN HILL, 10am, Leaves Green one park, adjacent to Crown Pub, up to 10 mls, D. 22 01322 55C59. FARNBOROUGH, 1pm, by George Hotel (there is no parting in horel car park), 5 mls, D. WEST MALLING, 10.30am, car park behind Tesco, High.

LANCASHIRE
29 Dec: NELSON, 10:30am, Victoria
Park car park, 5 mls, D. 01:32:61373.1. 1
Jan: CHIPPING, 11am, main car park,
10 mls (incl. 500m climb up Fair Snape
Fell). a 01:772 31:2027. ORMSKIRK,
1:30cm, St. Anne's Church, Prescot Rd.
5 mls, D. 01:772 81:2034 [e).

1 Jan: SPALDING, 11am, Chatterion Vater Tower, J tok, D. LONDON AREA

LONDON AREA 28 Dec CROYDON, 10.15 am, Conladon South railway station. 13 or 6 mis. D. 0181 686 0636; 2 mr. Rose & Crown, Godstone Rd. Kratey, 7 mls. D. 0181 686 0636. 30 Dec: HAMMERSMITH, 10.15 mr. Tube station, 7 mls. 0171 328 6724 (e). 1 Jan; HAVERING. 10.30 mr. Bedfords Park car park, 3 mis. 01708 509935.

memos. ISIDE
28 Dec THURSTASTON, 10-30am, visitor ceptre, Staton Rd, 6 mls, D. 0151608 9472. I Jan: FINDON VILLAGE,
1.30am, near Gua Inn., 5 mls, D. 01273
452560.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
26 Dec; CRANFORD ST JOHN, 2pm,
village green, 4½ mls. D. 01536 511162
(e). 29 Dec: DAVENTRY, Series of
walks, all starting at Country Park.
9,15am, 13 mls. 9,45am, 10 mls, 10am, 5
mls. 1.30pm, 5 mls, D. 01933 460373 (e).
POTTERSPURY, 10am, church grave-

yard, 10 mls, D. 01525 385288 (e). 1 Jan: BRACKLEY, 10am, town hall, 8 mls, D. WEEDON, 9, 30am, recreation ground, 6 mls, D. 01604 755786 (e); 1.30pm, Plume and Feathers pub, 5 mls, D. 01604

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
29 Dec: HARBY, 10am, Nag's Head Imper park, 5-6 mis. 01476 565090. LAMBLEY, 10.30am, by Nags Head pub, Main St/Spring Line, 9 mis, D. 0115
801002 (c) LOWDHAM, 10.30am, primary school, Main Street, T_{l2} mk, D. 01949 842141. 1 Jan: COTGRAVE, 11am, Mackleys Bridge, 1 ml porth of Kinoulton, 7 mls. D. 0115 977 2161 (d).

OGGRISHIRE

28 Dec: WOODSTOCK, 10am, The
Museum, High Street, 6 mls. D. 01608
642360. 31 Dec: CHILDREY, 10am,
church, 8 mls. D. 01235 751280. 1 Jac;
PSDEN, 10am, florner Farm (park in
house drive), m Wellingford, 8 mls. D.
01491 574065.

SHROPSHIRE 28 Dec CLEOBURY NORTH 10mm, Brown Clee picnic area, 10 mls, 01902 753201. 29 Dec CHURCH STRET-TON, 10am, car park, 10 mls, 01902
758947. WELLINGTON/TELFORD, 10am, Forest Glen, 4 mls, D. 01630
653433. 30 Dec: CRAVEN ARMS, 10.30am, on 84368 at turning to Seifton Batch, 8 mls, 01584 877375. THE WREKIN, 8 mls, 01543 423071 (e), 31

Dec MUCH WENLOCK, 10nm, NT car park, 8 mb, D. 01952 727617. 1 Jane LLANYMYNECH, 10nm, Dolphin Inn, canalistic car park, 71₂ mls, D. 01691

Photograph: John Coghill

SOMERSET
28 Dec: MINE-HEAD, disused marry,
Hill Rd, 10.30am, 4 mls or 8 mls; 1,30pm,
4 mls, 0.1643 703986. WELLS, 10.30am,
Most Bishop's Palsce, 8 mls, 0.1749
670019. 29 Dec: BATH, 2pm, outside
RSPCA Animal Centre, The Avenue,
Caverton Down, 4 mls, D, 0.1225 33395.
LLXBOROUGH, 10.30am, VElage Hall
car park, 8 mls, D, 01823 324185. SANDFORD, 10.30am, Brinsey Products car
park, off A368 at Sandford, 8 mls, 0.1934
820934. STREET, 10.30am, hydrom Hill
car park, mr youth hostel, 8 mls, D,
01458 2.10500 (e). 31 Dec: NORTH
CURRY, 10.30am, Rising Sun Inn car
park, Lower Knapp, 41p mls, D, 01823
442509. 1 Jan: BLUE ANCHOR, cast
end of front. 10.30am, 5 mls, 1.30pm, 4
mls, 01984 640277. CLEVEDON, 10am,
Saithouse Fields car park, 5 mls, D,
01275 371236. MIDSOMER NORYON,
10.30am, Safeway car park, 442 mls, D. 01761 412069,

STAFFORDSHIRE STAFFORDSHIRE

28 Dec. ALTON, 9.30am, lay-by west of Great Gate. 10 mls. 01922 25862. NEW-BOROUGH, 10am, Red Lion pub, 442 mls. D. 01283 566201. 29 Dec. LICH-FIELD, 10.30am, long-stay car pure, friary, 6 mls. 01543 258439. 1 Jan. BOB-

BINGTON, 10.30am, West Park, opp. Summerfield Rd, 5 mls, O902 755966. 5 Jan: LICHFIELD, 10.30am, long-stay car park, friary, 8 mls. 01543 258439.

29 Dec BARHAM, 10.15am, Picnic centre, Pest House Lane, 5½mls, D. 01449 721121 (after 4pm). BURY ST EDMUNDS, 10am, Macebearer car EDMONDS, IDAM, MOCEDEART CAT park, Hardwick Lune, 10 mls. Dogs allowed at rear. 01284 768729. GT GLEMEIAM, 10.30am, Old School, 5 mLS, D. 2201728 548481. WOOD-BRIDGE, 10.15am, Community Centre mLS, D. 2201728 648481. WOOD-BRIDGE, 10.15am, Community Centre car park, Station Rd, 6½ mis, D. 01473 623431. 1 Jan: CULFORD, 10.30am, Culford School Sports Centre car park, 5-6 mis, Dogs are allowed at rear of walk, 01359 250815. NEEDHAM MARKET, 10.30am, service road east side of B1113 ar Badley Bridge, 4 mls, D. 01473 623431.

STAFFOROSHIRE 29 Dec: HEDNESFORD, 9.30 am, Kwik Save tur park, 7 mls. 01889 586438 (e).

SURREY
28 Dec EWHURST, 10am, Hartwood
control car park 3, Pinch Hill (3 miles
south of Shere), 5½ mis, D. 01483 300661
(e). SELSDON, car park ment to library,
10am, 5 or 10 mis; 130pm, 5 mis 0.181660 5733. 29 Dece KESTON PONDS,
10am, car park, 10-12 mis 0.181-660 5733.
1 Jane COMPTON, 2pm, village hall, 4
mis, D. 01483 42712. PIRBRIGHT,
10.30am, village green, 5 mis, D. 01252
657741.

WARWICKSHIRE
29 Dec: HALFORD, 10.15am, old river
bridge. 10 mis, D. 01295 253289 (e).
HENLEY IN ARDEN, 9.45am, Prince
Harry Rd car park, 9 mis. 0121 748 3886,
30 Dec: STRATFORD UPON AVON.
1.30pm, Gower Memorial, Rancroft Gardens, 5 mis. 01789 299061,

29 Dec MERE, 10am, NT car park, Stouthead, 10 mls, D. 01225 753897. 1 Jan: BOX, 10am, Selwyn Hall car park, 9½ mls, D. 01225 761200.

VORKSHIRE

28 Dec. POPPLETON. 10am. war memorial. 9 mis. D. 01904 708479. 1 Jam. HEDON, 10am. Market Place. 8 mls. D. 01904 708479. 1 Jam. HEDON, 10am. Market Place. 8 mls. D. 01904 708479. HUGGATE. 10.15am. Fox Covert Farm. 12 mls. D. 01904 708479. 29 Dec. CAWOOD, 10.45am. carparl. D. 01937 833574. EASINGWOLD. 10.15am. Birdinoth lav-by A19, 12 mls. D. 01904 708479. MUKER. 10.30em. village carparl. 8 mls. D. 01748 822845. THORNTON LE DALE, 10am. carparl. 10 mls. D. 2101904 708479. 29 Dec. BASLOW, 9.30am. main carparl. 8 mls. 0114 2738339 (e). 31 Dec. HDLLSBOR-OUGH, 9.30am. Malin Bridge tram stop. 8 mls. 0114 2738339 (e). 1 Jan: SWIN-TON, 10am. 10wn centre carparl. 12 mls.

8 mis. 0114 2738339 (c). 1 Jan: SWIN-TON, 10am, town controver park, 12 mis, D. 2201 709 585389 (c). 28 Dec O'ILEY. 1pm, Market Square clock, 8 mis, D. 0113 3402889 (c). 29 Dec GARFORTH, 11.30, Crusader pub, Selby Rd (before Canforth Chiff travelling from Leeds city). 6 mis. D. 0113 2931358 (c). HEB-DEN BRIDGE, Rd.15 m. information Centre, 8 mis. D. 0427 87340 MeD. Centre, 8 mls, D, 01422 823440, HON-

LEY, two walks starting from Gynn Lane. 10am, 4 or 8 mis. 12.45pm, 4 mls, D. ILKLEY, 10am, the old bridge, 9 mls. 0113 2689268. MIRFIELD, 11.30pm, library car park, 5 mls, D. 01924 496442. RIPPONDEN, 10am, car park, Royd Lane, 6 mls, D. 22.01706 365404, 30 Dec. ILKLEY, 10.15am, railway station, 6 mls. 0113 2587861. 31 Dec. MENSTON, 10am, railway station, 5 mls. 0113 2587861. 1 Jan: LUDDENDEN FOOT, 10.30am, Station Rd, 9 mls, D. 01422 823440. PATELEY BRIDGE, 10.15am, main car park, Brimham Rocks, 8 mls. D.

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Standard Street | Bridge St. St.

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Scotland

ANGUS
29 Dec: DUNDEE, 10.40am, Camperdown Park or 11am, Tallybaccart, both on A923. 5 mls, D. 22 01382 641733 or 552813. 29 Dec: ABERLADY, 9am, Dalkeith Indoor Bowling Club car park, 8 mls. 0131 6540893; 0131 6639335 (e).

28 Dec: SCOTLANDWELL, 10.30am Well Country Inn., 3 mis. 01383 722943, 29 Dec: IRVINE, 10am, Eginton Park visitors centre, 3-5 mis. 01292 315769 (e).

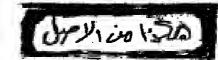
arma HLLYDE 28 Dec: W KILBRIDE, 9.30am, Water-side Seamill, 7 mls. 01294 822158. BRIDGE OF ALLAN, 10.30am, Bridge over Allan Water, 12 mls, 0141 429 0893 (e).

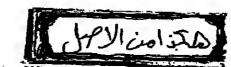
28 Dec: BRAID HILLS, 11am, Morton-half Club House, Braid Road, 6 mls. 0131-445 3078. 31 Dec: EDINBURGH, 8.30am, Linkingow Cross (walk inci climb of 800 ft), 8 mls.

Wales

28 Dec LAMPETER, 1pm, Ram Inn, Comam, 5 mls, D. 01570 422566 (d). 11.ANDEILO, 10.30am, car park, 4½ mls, D. 01559 177623. NEWCASTIE EMLYN, 11am, market car park, +5 mls, D. 01259 711057. 1 Jam: RETWS-Y-COED, 11 30am extrapression of feet. COED, JL30am, station car pack, 5 mls, D.01492 641587, 28 Dec LLANBERIS. 10am, Oriei car part, 6 mls, D. 01248 810208. 29 Dec BARMOUTH, 10.30am 810208. 29 Dec: BARMOUTH, 10.30am, Leisure Centre, station, 41% mis. 01341 422367. I Jan: PONISTICILL, 11am (or 10am from Ystrad Mynach). Red Cow car park. 4 mis, D. 01443 936257. 30 Dec: PONINEDDFECHAN, 10.30am, manny car park at Craie v Dinas. 7 mis. PONTNEDDFECHAN. 10.30am, quarry car part at Craig y Dinas, 7 mls. 01443 223470(e). 20 Dec. EFAIL ISAF, 9.30am, Llambrisant Leisure Centre, 11 mls. D. 01443 207689 (e). 1 Jan: WEN-VOE, 11 mls. D. 01443 207689 (e). 1 Jan: GOWER, 10am, w of Penmaen, Rose Courage bus stop and car parking, 7 mls. Dogs allowed but no cutending leads, 01792 367188, 30 Dec. at Glya Ceiriog. 10.30 am, Pont-y-Meibion, nr Pandy 01691 718771.

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS O. dogs are welcome, but must be kept
on a lead
(d) daytime telephone number
(e) evening telephone number





New Year guide to theatre, clubs & events

Liese Spencer advises you to steer well clear of the Trafalgar Square scrum this New Year's Eve, and head for Edinburgh's Hogmanay Festival

hile TV cameras ing dance from DJs from Lift, zoom in on the heaving crowde in Trafal ing crowds in Trafalgar Square, everyone who knows what's what will be skipping that superannuated celebration and first footing it up north to celebrate a traditional Scottish Hogmanay. Although Glasgow has a fearsome reputation for all-night debauchery, this year, Edinburgh looks set to trump its rivals with a fourday festival of arts, music and sporting events which the city believes will be the biggest New Year celebration in the world. Revellers can choose between s welter of entertainment which includes rock concerts in the shadow of the great castle, intimate candle-lit classical concerts and international street theatre. As the list below illustrates, there's something for everyone. Pick your personality for 1997 or compile an identi-kit partygoing profile:

THE JAZZER Jazz on Hogmanay: Get

hep to the sounds of Suzanne Bonnar, Fionna Duncan and Carol Kidd, performing a giddy mix of swing, blues and gospel. Queen's Hall, 31 Dec 7.30pm

THE CLUBBER: Children of the Albion Rovers Club Nite Readings and ravings from clubber and author Irvine Welsh, along with bang-

Ton Courtensy and Albert Finney in Yas-mius Reza's drama about art and friendship. Wyndham's Theatre Charing Cross Road WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111)

◆ Leicester Square, Tue-Sat 8pm, mats Wed 3pm, Sat & Son 5pm (3) Dec, 5pm only), £9:50-£25, 90 mins.

As You Line it Nianth Cuesck in Steven Pimbou's produc-tion of Shakespeare's meditation, Barbican Theatra EC2 (0171-638 8891)

© Barbism/Mourgate. In rep. 28 Dec. 6-7 Inn. 7.15pm, mat 28 Dec. 2pm, in rep. until 29 Mar. 26-£24.50. 195 mins.

The Bussity Russen Of Liernance
Revival of Marifia McDoungh's come drama set in Consensus.
Royal Court Theeire (at the Busice Of
York's) St Martin's Lane WCZ (U171-565
5000) & Leicester Square/Charing Cross.
Mon-Stof 7-30pm (np nerf 1 Jan., nat Sat
3:00pm, ends 11 Jan. £5-£18, benches 10p,
Mon still years 55, 130 mins.

Slinded By The Sun
Stephen Polishoff's acientific descrive story
stars Frances de la Ther and Graham Crowden,
National Theather, Cottenton South Bank
SEI (1017-128 2252) BR/O-Waterloo, Last
peris 25 Dec, 230pm & 7,30pm, £16, restricted view £12, 150 mins.

Blood Brothers Phoenix Theatre Charing Cross Rd WC2

tenham Cr Road, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Thu 3pm, Sat 4pm, £9.50-£27.50, 165 mins.

Buddy Strand Theatre Akleych WCZ (0171-930 8800) & Covers Garden/Charing Cross, Tue-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Su 5pm & 8.30pm, mars Sun 4pm (30 Dec & 2 Ian, 5.30pm & 8.30pm), £4.50-£28.50, 160 mins.

By Jowes An Andrew Lloyd Webber and Alan Ayck-bourn musical collaboration based on the

PG Wodehouse stories. Lyric Theorre Staftesbury Avenue W! (0171-494 5045) ⊕ Piccadilly Circus. M

Set 7.45pm, mars Wed & Set 3pm, £11.50-£25, 140 mins.

Cash On Delivery
Bradley Walsh plays a DSS cheat in
Michael Cooney's faxes.
Withthall Thealire Whitehall SWI (0171-369
1735/cs 867 1111) BR/49 Charing Cross,
Mon-Fri Spin, Sat 8.30pm, mans Wed Spin.
Sat 5.30pm (31 Dec. Spin) £10-£22, 135 mins,

New London Theetire Drury Lane WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) ◆ Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Tue & Sat 3pm, £10.50-£32.50, 165 tries.

The & Sai spin, 2(135)-13-15, for trens.

Le Cercle Invisible
Victoria Chaptin and Jean-Baptiste Thierree's evocative disallation of the circus form.

Mermaid Theatire Puddle Dock EC4 (0171236 2211) © Blackfriars. Toe-Sai 7 30pm.

(30 Dec., 7:30pm, nor 31 Dec., 1 Jan.), mats
Sam 4pm (mat 31 Dec., 1 Jan., 4pm), ends 12

Jan., £13.50-£19.50, cones & standby £10,

child £10, family of four £50. 120 mins.

Alox McCowen and Penelope Wilton in Adrian Noble's 1995 production of Chekhov Albery Theatre St Martin's Lane WC2 (1977: 369 1730cc 867 1311) • Leicester Square, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mars Thu & Sat 3pm, ends 25 Jan, £10-£25, 165 mins.

The Cherry Orchard

1.55

Theatre

Theatre, Cambridge St, Mon 30 9.30pm-3.30am £10

World Party - Celebrate global dance culture with live acts and DJs from all over the world. Meadowbank Stadium, 31 Dec 8pm-late £22.50. After sweating it out on the dancefloor, check out the

At the Hogmanay Street Party

palace in Princes St.

ers and popsters alike will find something to sing in the New Year. On the Radio One Stage (Castle St, 9.30pm-1.30pm) unplug your lugs to Mary Kiani and Burger Queen, or shimmy down to Forth FM's Stage (The Mound, 10.15pm-late) for Manchester four-piece The Space Mon-keys, the unbearably hip Baby Bird, Stereophonics and retro faves Ocean Colour Scene.

on New Year's Eve itself, rock-

THE PYROMANIAC: The Torchit Procession is a spectacular start to Hoemanay. with a procession of flames, led by a huge longboat, held aloft by men in kilts. Torches can be bought from the High Street and Mound Square. The flaming event leaves Parliament Square at 5.30pm on 29 Dec and

A Christmas Carol
Starring Richard Briers as the miser Scrooge,
Lyric Hammersmith King St. W6 (0181-741
2311) — Hammersmith. 28, 30, 31 Dec.
7.30pm, mats 28, 31, 2.30pm, ends 18 Jan,
£10-£15, under 16 £6, all seass Mon £5.

The Complete History Of America (Administration of America (Administration of America (Administration of America Administration of America America Company's comic version. Critarion Theatre Piccadilly Circus, WI (0171-369 1747) — Piccadilly Circus, Wed-Sat Sym, mats Tim Jpm, Sat Sym, Sun 4pm, £5.50-£20, 120 mins.

No Crippe of transparent Nicholas Hyter directs Martin McDonagh's chants set on an island off the Irish coast. National Theather: Contains South Hauk SEI (0/171-928 2252)

Waterloo. In rep. 2-4, 6 han, 7-30pm, 7 han, 7-ym, mats 4 lan, 2-30pm, continuing, £16, restricted view £12.

Death Of A Salesman.
Ahm Armstrong stars in Arthur Miller's sensing study of family contlict.
National Theather Lythatton South Bank SEI (0171-928 2252)

Waterion, in cep. 28, 30-31 Dec., 1 Jan., 7-30pm, must 28, 31 Dec., 2 15pm, communing. 28-224. 175 mins.

A Doll's House
Thera's study of marital fragration stars
Janet McTeer and Owen Teale.
Playhouse Theatre Northumberland A
Playhouse Theatre Northumberland A

raystans (12.0171-839 4401) & Embank-ment, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 2.30pm (2-Jan, 2.30pm & 7.30pm, no perf 31 Dec) ends 11 Jan, £10-£23-50, 180 mins,

(017) 494 5075Ac 344 4444) & Covent Ourden, Mon-Fri Spm, Sat Spm & 8.30pm, mats Wed 3pm, £9-£19-50. 165 mins.

ma and multimedia.
National Theatre: Lytinition South Bank
SEI (0171-928 2252) BR/© Waterico.
From 4 Jan, Moro-Sai 7.30pm. ends 11 Jan,
88-624, 105 mins.

Par Laues RA, wante of Poetin Caros
A Young Samurai and a maid fall in love in
this rale of forbidden county love.
National Theatric Cottouloe South Bank
SEI (0171-928 2252) BR/O Waterloo. In
rep. 30-31 Dec. 1 Jan. 7-30pm, ends 29 Jan.
£16, restricted view £12, 165 mins.

Cambridge Theatre Eartham Street WCZ

(0171-494-5080) ◆ Crovent Garden. Mon-Set 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 3pm (1 Jan, 7.30pm only, 2 Jan, 3pm & 7.30pm) £10-£27.50. 150 mins.

Guys And Dolls
Richard Eyre's production of Frank Locaser's Broadway-set musical stars Clarke Petert and Joanna Riding,
National Theatre: Olivier South Bank SEI
(0171-928 2252) BR/© Waterston, Mon-Sat

7.15pm, mass Sat 2pm (extra mat 3/ Dec, 2pm), ends 29 Mar, £12-£32.50. 165 mins.

The Herbal Bad
Peter Whelan's emotional thriller respired
by a real-life sensotional thriller respired
by a real-life sensotial involving Statespeare's daughter.
Barblean: The Pit Barbiean Centre EC2
(0171-0-9-6871)

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Barblean: The Pit Barbiean Centre EC2
(0171-0-9-6871)

Barblean: The Pit Barbiean

Smoot ware and Carlo Production.
Half's revival of his 1992 production.
Old Vic Waterloo Rd SE1 (0171-928 6655)

& Waterloo, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mets Wed & Sat 3pm, ends 25 Jan, £6-£24, 165 mins.

Fair Ladies At A Game Of Poem Cards

The Cricole Of Inishment

Douth Of A Salesman

Don't Dress For Dinner



No matter if you're a pyromaniac or a New Ager, there's something for everyone at the Hogmanay Festival

proceeds to Calton Hill for the Fire Festival (6pm) which features a pageant by perfor-mance group Te Pooka. The climax is fireworks at midmight in Princes St Gardens.

THE AESTHETE: Scottish Food Fahr: Gourmands can watch demonstrations of Scottish cooking and sample the delicious results. Assembly Rooms, 54 George St Sat 28-Mon 30 10am-6pm Candiellt Concert in The Cathedral The choir of St

An Inspector Calls Garrick Theatre Charting Cross Road WC2 (0171-494 5085) © Leicester Square. Men-pri 7-Kopus, Sat 8,159m, mats Wed 2:30pm, Sut 5pm, £9-£24-50. 110 mins.

Lyosum Theatin Wellington Street WC2 (0171-656 1802) & Charing Cross/Embante ment, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mass Wed & Saj 3pm, £15-£32.50, 165 mins.

#34 (317) & Victoria, The-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed, Thu & Sat 3pm, £12.50-£30, 170 mins.

Gene Wilder plays a 1950s television comic beseiged by McCarthyism in Nell Simon's comedy.

comedy, Queen's Them's Staftesbury Avenue Wi (0171-494 5590/cc 0171-344 4444) © Fic-cality Circus. Mcc-Sat 8pm, mats Wed 2:30pm, Sat 4pm, £9:50-£25, 140 mins.

The Learned Ladies
Steven Findett directs Molicre's social
states, with Namh Cessek and Rager Allam,
Barblann; The Pit Barbland Cestre EC2
(0171-636 8891) 49 Barbland/Moorgate, In
rep. 3 & 4 Jan, 7,15ym, mat 4 Dec. 2pm,
coch 5 Feb, £10-617, 165 mins.

Las Miserables
Patace Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue W1
(017)-434 (909)

Piccadilly Circus, MonSet 7-30pm, notes The & Set 2-30pm, 17530, 195 mins.

Macheth Roger Allem beads The Albery's produc-

tion of Shakespeare's tragedy. Berbican Theatre Barbican Centre EC2.

(0171-638 8891) ◆ Barbican/Moorgate. In rep. 31 Dec. 1 & 2 Jan. 7.15pm, mar 2 Jan. 2pm, ends 27 Mar., 86-824-50. 195 mins.

Martin Course lain Glen in Boubbil and Schooberg's epic.

Prince Edward Thesite Old Compton Street W1 (0171-447 5400) ← Leiczster Square, Mon-Sat 7 A5pm, mans Thu & Sat 3pm, £16.50-432.50, 150 mins.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street WC2 (0171-494 5060) ⊕ Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pen, mote Wed & Sat 3pm, £8.50-£32.50, 165 mins.

The Moustrap St Martin's Theatre West Street WC2 (0/71-536 1443) & Leicenter Square. Mos-Sai Spor, mats The 2-ASport, Sat Spor (3) Dec, 2-45por & Sport), 58-522, 135 mins.

Hine Felina impired musical about a film-maior

Sai 7.30pm, mais Wed & Mar, £12-£25. 120 mins.

whose woman trouble causes a creative block.
Donmar Warehouse Earthum Street WC2
(0171-369 1732) & Leicester Square, Moo-

The Official Tribute To The Blues Brothers

The Official Tripote To The Squest Strobness Comits concert emiscial featuring the cult R&B heroes.

Apollo Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue W1 (0171-494 SVRI) & Piccadilly Carcus, Moor-Thu Spin, Fri & Sat Open & Spin, ends 18 Jun, 47 50-425, 130 mins.

Old Whited Sorgs
A young concert pianist finds it's good to ralk with errolder professor in Jon Marans' drama, starning Bob Hockins.
Gloquel Theories Sanlesbury Ave W1 (0171-494 5065) & Picc Circus. Mon-Sat 7:30pm, mass The 2-Norm, Sat 4pm, 43-454, 120 mins.

Obvert London Pellindium Argyll Street W1 10171-494 SOD(SUS) & Oxford Circus. Mon-Sat 7-30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2-30pm, 110-132-50, 150 mins.

THIS Wed & Sai Jpm, ends 8

Laughter On The 23rd Floor

Jesus Christ Superstar Lyceum Theatra Well

Giles and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra Brass Ensemble perform works by Handel, Taverner and Poulenc in the atmospheric environs of this medieval church St Giles Cathedral, High St. Mon 30 7-30pm-9pm First Light Sneak an early preview of Edinburgh's rare collection of Turner's water-

THE NEW AGER: Find out what the new year holds in store for you at Futurama, a psy-

Furnier
Griff Rhys Jones stars in Ben Travers' farm
about the attempt to win an inherbance.
Savoy Thantra Strand WC2 (0173-836
88889cc 0479) & Charing Gross/Embankment Man-Sat 7.40pm, may Thu & Sat
2.30pm, £10-£25. 160 mins.

Riverdance - The Show Hammersmith Apollo Queen Caroline St

Mon-Sut Spin, mars Sat 2-Tym, (29 Dec. Spin, 30 Dec. 2:30pm & Spin) entis 18 lan, £12-£28.50 plus £1.50 booking fee, 140 mins.

School

Anthony Newley humbugs his way through
the Dickensian Christmas musical.

Dominion Thesira Tottenham Court Road

WI (0171-416 6060) & Tottenham CI Rd.

Mon-Sat 7.30pm (not 31 Dec. 1 Jan), mais Thu & Sat 3pm Jentra mais 30-31 Dec. 3 Jan.

Smokey for's Cafe - The Sorge Of Labor And Stoller
The rock and roll bitmakers celebrated in a musical revue that includes Jaulhouse Rock.
Prince of Wales Theatre Coventry Street
Will 1017 For SOTTO.

WI 10171-859 5972) ◆ Leicester Square/Piccadilly Circus, Mon-Sat Spin, mass The & Sat Spin, £15-€30, £35 mins.

Starlight Express
Apolio Victoria Wilson Road SW1 (0171416 6070) BRAG Victoria, Mon-Sat 7.45pm
mass Toc & Sol Apol (2) Jan. 3-ye &
7.45pm), £11.50-£30, 150 mins.

A Structure Named Dealer Termessee Wilhams' tense drama stars Jes-sica Lange and Toby Stephens. Theathe Royal Haynardet SWI (0171-630 8800) © Pier Chros. More-Set 7-85pm (30 Dec. 7pm), mars Tou & Sat 3pm, £10-630.

Surget Boolevard

Adelph Theatre Strand WC1 (0171-344

0055) ◆ Charing Cross. Mon-Sat 7.45pet,
mass Thu & Sat *pet, £15-£32.50. 160 mins.

Alen Bennert monologues performed by Maggic Smith and Margaret Tytock.
Cornedy Theetre Panton St SW1 (0711369 1731) & Picc Circus. Perfs required.
Ian, then Moro-Sat Spin, mass Tru Spin, Sat
Spin, ends 1 Feb, £8-125, 110 mins.

Shaftesbury Theatre Shaftesbary Avame WC2 (0171-579 5399) & Holborn/Tottes-ham Court Road. Mcm-The Span, Fri & Sat 8.30pm, mats Fri \$.30pm, Sat 3pm, £10.50-.530, 135 mins.

Trous & Greentes
Joseph Firmes and Victoria Hamilton bend
Las Indige's production of Stahespeare's spic.
Burblean Theathr Barbican Croure EC2
(0171-038 8891) & Barbican/Moorgate. In
rep. 3-4 Jan. 70m. mat 4 Jan. 1 30pm. cnds
25 Mar. £5-£34-50, 200 mins.

The White Devil

John Webmer's disturbingly violent Ja-

others (hiller. Barthean: The Fit Barthean Centre EC; (017)-038 890]) — Barthean/Moorgan. In rep. 28, 30-31 Dec, 6 Jan, 7,15pm, mai 28 Dec, 2pm, ends 29 Mar, 210-217.

Albee's menticulative tragi-country starring Diana Rigs and Darid Sochet. Alwysch Treatm Aldwych WC2 (0171-416 6003/cc 856 3428) ◆ Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.15pm, mas Sat 2.15pm (on perf 31 Dec, Spm only), £7.50-£25, 175 mins.

Who's Atraid Of Virginia Woolf?

Talking Hends

Trolles & Cresida

3pm), ends 1 Feb; £3.50-£27.50. 150 mm

W6 10171-416 6060) . Plans

Scotland, 1 Jan 12-5pm

chic gathering of Mystic Megs. Along with the sooth-sayers there's also an environmental sculpture called the Resolution Tree. Riddles Court, Royal Mile Sat 28-31 11am-6pm

OUTDOOR TYPES: The Hogmanay Games -dium 11am-4pm £3

stretch over two days and feacolours. National Gallery of ture the ancient New Year Sprint, and the first Edinburgh vs Glasgow Tug O'War. Mon 30, Tue 31 Mcadowbank Sta-Information Line: 0891-33 1997 The Phankson Of The Opera Her Majessty's Theatre Haymarket SW1 (0171-494-5400/cc 0171-344-4444) © Pic-cadilly Circus, Mon-Sai 7.45pm, mass Wed & Sai 3pm, 57-£70, 150 mira.

Clubs

The Witches
A hoy and his grandmother join forces against the writhes in David Wood's adaptation of Roald Dahl's nevel.

Vaudeville Theatre Stand WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/40 Charing Cross. Mon-Sat Jun. mais Too-Fri Jun. Sat 1 Jun. mais Too-Fri Jun. Sat 1 Jun. # Jun. 1 Jun. 2 Jun. 2 Jun. 2 Jun. 2 Jun. 2 Jun. 2 J SATURDAY 28 THE ENG Sch-Terrain's Flest Birthday Pure techno liberation with Colin Faver and Dave Angel. West Central Street WCI (0171-419 9199) & Touenbarn, Court Road/Holborn, 11pm-Sam, £13, mens £16. The Woman in Black Fortune Theatre Russell Street WCE (0171-836 DMR/cs 344 4844) © Covern Garden/Hohorn, Mon-Sat Ryon, mais Tue 3pm, Sat 4pm, 08.50-ED, 110 mms. BAGLEYS STUDIOS Francisco Freezeyle

LONDON

LONDON FRINGE

ALMEIDA THEATRE

A Midstagurer Night's Drawn Angela Thorne
as Tismis in Sonathan Miller's production.

Almeida Street NI (0171-350 4404)

A Angel. Mon-Sai 7-30nn, mass Sai 3pm
(nn perfs 31 Dec-1 Jan), ends 1 Feb. £650£19-50, crocs available.

ARTS THEATRE ARTS THEATRE.

Dathalase Chisally thriller in which two men of letters battle at out at a party, Green Nosport St WCZ (1171-856 21332)c. 741 19999 & Leitoneur St, Mon-Sut Syon, mat Sut 5:30pm, ends 1 Jnn, £12.50, tones £7.50.

THE BRIDEWELL HIE BMDEWELL
Manny Ma A Utilis Stephen Sondheim musical about two lonely people, performed by
the Brickwell's news superb company.
Bride Lane, Fleet Screen EC4 (0171-936
3456) ⊕ Blackfrians, 28-30 Dec, 1-4 Jan,
7-30pm, mus 5 Ian, 4-30pm, muds 11 Jan,
66-50 crose 15. \$6.50 coors 15.

COCHRANE YHEATRE Code Confort Farm Michael Friend's adap-tation of Stella Gibbons' eatire of melodra-matic russes novels, Southampton Row WCI (0171-242 7040) to Holbert, Men-Sar 2,30pm (pp. 1 Jun), ma 28 Dec, 3pm, ends 11 Jun, 08.50, conce £5.50, Mon all souts £5. DRILL HALL ARTS CENTRE

Betien radio adventures of the 40s. Chemies Street WC1 (0171-637 5270) ⊕ Geodge St. Tue-Sun 7.30pm, ends 18 Jan, £7-£14. THE GRACE THEATRE Guardal Gubrotal Farst staging of one of Terry Pratchett's comic Discovered novels. Batternea Park Rd 5W11 10171-223 3549) BR-Capham Junction. Daily Spen (not 31 Dec. 6 Jan), mais Sat & Sun 4pm, ends 11

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE The Bowerth Communiquent David Schnelder start in his own comedy about a Jewish entate agent with mother trouble. Avenue Road NWJ (017)-722 9301)

4 Swiss Cottage. Mon-Sat Spin, mats Sat 3,30pm, 211 (Toe-Frit), £13.50 (Sat eve), Mon & mats IR.

LYRIC STUDIO LYRIC STUDIO
The Truman Capote Taik Show Bob Kingdom's one man recreation of the US writer centres on his fail from grace, in rep. 28, 30 Dec., 4, 5 Jan, 3pm, mar 2 Jan, 4 Joyan, ends 11 Jan, 52,50, comes £5, all seans Mon £5. Dylan Thomest Rechard Jeanney Anthony Hapking directs Bob Kingdom in a portrair of the Weish writer. King 5x Wb (0181-741 2311) & Hammersmith. In rep. 31 Dec. 23 Jan, 3pm, mais 28 Dec., 4 Jan, 4 Jöpen, ends 11 Jan, 52,50, comes £5, all seats Mon £5.

THE END New Years Eve Techno and Deep bouse freak-out with Darren Emerson, Tom Parus (Ausibes) and Hector Romero (New York), West Central Street WC1 (0171-419 9199) & Turtenham Otter Road/Holborn, 920-720, £30 in adv. THE COLOSSEUM Satalitie's New Years Ear Deep house to funby tecture with Terry Hinner, garage with Ricky Morrison and R&B, hip hop and drum'n Years, Nine Elms Lane SELI (0171-729 920)/info 287 6171) Vanshall, Span-very late, ELS, adv E30. ORANGE TREE THEATRE
Family Circles Wedding anniversary chaos
courses in the 25th anniversary revival of emais in the Son anniversary revival of Application's comedy. Clarence Street, Richmond, Surrey (0181-940 3637 & Richmond, Mon-Sar J-Africa not I Jan), mas Sai 4pn, 2 Jan, 2-30pm, 3 Jan, 4pn, 19-414-50, cones evallable. BLUE NOTE New Years Eve Party Two floors of raw acid jazz, drum'n'heas and soul movers. Haston Sq N1 (0171-729 8440' mlo 287 1887) • Old Street, floom-late, £25 m adv from Ticket Master/Mr Bongo,

REGIONAL

BOXFORD

Dorsen Dorsen Brasiol covers band, Fiddlers Willway Street, Bedminster (0117 987 34t3] 31 Dec. 7.20pm, 68-£10.

Jock Tyldasley & Gavin Lewery Cajum doo. The Fit Hobel Lane 101252-850789) 31 Dec

Or Fonigood, Colin John Band Pub-rock era Southerd R&B brys, with Texas bless from John, Chiddingfold Club (01-883-712483) 28 Dec. 8pm, phone for prices. IPSWICH

THURSDAY 2 KINGSTON UPON THAMES Umehouse Lizzy Trin Lizzy tribute. Grey Horse Richmond Road (0151-546 4818) 29 Dec. 8. Wyrn. £5. PORTSMOUTH

Ruthless Blues Stevie Smith's bar-room Mossers 29 Dec. 6 ASper, 16. Limehause Lizzy Thin Lizzy Iribute.
Wedgewood Rooms Albert Road (01705863411) 3 Jan. Spm. 15. FRIDAY 3 SOUTHAMPYON Todd Miller & The Joe Loss Orchestra US

The Lord Of Misroles A Mediaval Christ-mus Celebration Samus plays ancient and moticeal instruments, with danting. For all the imails, 20 Dec. 7.34pm, 6s. 20, cones 85-08, tamby tacket available. The Hotchpotch Pantonisms: An 18th Century Seasonal Pantoniene Sugang-dancing, grotesque and magical effects, and miste combine in popular 1710s pon-to.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL Saltimbanes Leg-enting Cirque Du Soleil returns with box-cellier breating thou for festive season. Descring these for secretons. Kernington Gene 58-7 (1017):589 (212) 99 High M Kernington, From 2 Jan, Tue-Sun 7-8-5m, mass San-San 2-30pm, ends 19 Jan, 423,54-440.

Dec. 4-5 Jan. 11.30am, £5, child £1, book LITTLE ANGEL MARIONETTE THEATRE The Steeping Beauty Little Angel met-emettes review the chasic production, featu-ing space music based no Tchalleveley's

Children

BARBICAN HALL The Mad Hatter's Christ-mas Concert London Concert Orchestra

must Concert London Concert Orchestra presents seasonal music, special stories and a size of surprues for children and fami-les, Barbaran Centre ECC [19771-638 8891] Milorgate/Barbaran, 28 Dec, 3,30pm,

BARBICAN HALL Femily Chanical Gala Classical family from the London Concert Orchestra. Ages six and up. Barbican Centre EC2 (9)171-638 89911 © Moorgate/Barbicta. 30 Dec., 7pm, 19.50-E26-50, under 16's 64-75-£13-25.

HAYWARD BALLERY It Con't Be True!

Hodgams with orientated writers who make instant texts from hids responses. Ages 7-12 with adult. Belvedere Road SEI 10171-960 (242) BRAD Waterloo. 28-29

Explora the paintings of Hos Hodghus with orlebrated we

Dogman Parrage, Cross St. NJ 10171-226 1787) - Highbury & Jahngton, Angel, Sat-Son & 3 Jan, 1 Jan Jages 3 & up] & Syun (ages 5 & up), ands 25 Jan, 16 50, conceptible

Pudding Intimate purper show presented by Oily Cart Theatre Company. Ages two to five. King Street Wb 10181-741. Zul 11 Hammermath. Mos-Fri from Dec 21 (except 1 Jan, 1 Jam & 2pm, Sat 1 Jam & Jpm, ends 4 Jan, £4. DLD ROYAL DESERVATORY Christ

Planetarium Show: Stars of Morier Resident Planetarium Lecturer Harry Ford do-scribes the Christman skies for chaldren un and above. Generavich Park SE10 (9181-858 402/312 6565) BR: Maze Hill. 28 Dec. Jum & 30m, 30-31 Dec. 230pm, £1.50, child £1. PURCELL ROOM David Wood Magic & Music Show BBC TV Mar presents a lamby show full of fine, and authence participation. For lamilies and children ages three

night of house, garage, handing, and jazz and beyond, York Way NI 10171-278 2777) & Kings Cross, 10pm-8em, £12, mems £8, £974 after 4em.

tosh's birthday posty with Terry Farley, Pete Heller and Rocky, Gastal Street SE1 (017)-378 6528) ◆ Elophant and Castle, midnight-9ats, £15, roccus £10.

SW1 The Ruel Thing Two areses of bouse and garage with residents Drew, POD, Scott Garcia and Geo-Sucove Joined by a weekly rotational of gueste. Victoria, 10pm-barn, 1071-630 8900) & Victoria, 10pm-barn, £12, £10 before 11pm, £6 other Juin.

TURNMILLS Barrasi Dib from Mo Was, Aduletico, Stient and Weird Beats Collect enteruin and delight. Clerkorwell Road ECT (0171-200 3409) & Farrasgotou. 9.30pm.3.30pm, 42, 47 before 11pm.

THE ROCKET The Music Temple Trippy

· Hollowey Road, 7pm-2am, ES, concs E4.

THE GARDENING CLUB Surfavorers Atti-tode-free house with Tony Prace and Bald Paul Johnnan. The Pinzay WC2 (0171-497 3153-4) & Covt Garden, Spin-Jam. E6.

UA2 Club X Indic and alt.rock, from Blur to the Chemical Bros via the Prodigy, Chaning Crust Rd WC2 (0171-434 0403) ◆ Totten-hum Court Road, 10pm-face, £8, NUS £6.

SMITHFIELD'S Lazy Christmas bash with Derrick Carter, Luke Solomon and Jerry B. Farragdon Street EC1 10171-248 5311)

THE CLINIC Decisions Electro, bectmo, implies and druan's bass freezesting with The Russaways and Reg 1, Gersard Street W1 (0171-739 8856) 49 Leiosaer Square, 10pm-3em, £5, cones £4.

CLOUD 9 Strawberry Standar New Years Eve This promises in he the higgest club night ever in central Loudon. Tekers avail-able from Virgin Megastor. Aftert Embankment SW8 (0171-735 5590) & Vannhall. 10pm-8am. £25.

SRIXTON ACADEMY Return To The Source

Goan wance New Year's special. Suckwell Road SW9 (0171-924 9999) BR-G-Briston. 9pm-6am, £73.50.

SUNDAY 29

MONDAY 3D

TUESDAY 31

MINISTRY OF SOUND Rules CJ Mackin

and up. 29 Dec. 3pm, 30-31 Dec. 11am and 3pm, £6, child £4.50, family ticket £17.50.

LONDON ACCADEMIA ITALIANA

South Bank SE1 (11)71-960 42421 @ Wa-

AND VALDEVILLE THEATRE The Witches The-atriced adaptation of Recald Dahl's story de-tected by Devid Wood for children and adults ashe. Strand WCC 10171-RS 98-71. Channe Cross. Mon-Sit "pm. mats Tue-Fra Spa, Sit I [and & Sprit extra trus 31 Doc. 11am & Sprit, child fra.51.

CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE
LECTURE THEATRE DEPARTMENT OF
ENGINEERING
What blacks The Cows Mad? Lecture for
11-19 year olds on the causes of BSE, by
Dr Romainal Rodley, 2 Jan. 2-4 year. No
reckets needed.
A Friend To Slaves Locture for 11-19 year
olds on the lestrey of the British slave
rade, 2 Jan, 10 30 am. No teckets needed,
Cauties Lachers Lecture on the below of
English castles, by Di Romald Grop, bellow
of Engineering Codings. For children agant 1119, 3 Jan. 2 Wyon, on thickets needed.
Antarctics & The Marthin Connaction Lecture for 11-19 pear olds by David WyonWilhams.
Trampington Street, 3 Jan, 10 30 am
DEFERR EXETER

ROYAL ALBERT MEMORIAL MUSEUM Po-ROYAL ALBERT MEMORAL MUSEUM Person years from the Undergotted West-Ares for 8-14 year olds with perpoter pixel Colus Mc. Farlane, with a special true of Exercit ancest modern ground passages. Bring packed hunch, 30 flow, 10.30 turn 3.30 pm, 26.50.

Time Detactives Workshop for 7-12 year olds on basiny and archaeology with Ger-

Exhibitions

20th Contony Russian Art From Symbolism To Scools Romana frangural exhibition of paginings from Museum Anthonic Corrado, The 10am-5pm, Wed 11am-5pm, The Sun 10am-5pm, ends 16 Feb, £S, cracs £5, mems

free. Granden Place SW1 (0171-235 0303) Hyde Park Corner Victoria.

Charlotte Permand: Modernast Pioneer Ex-plemation of the bie and work of the 20th century designer, Ends 13 Apr. Contain Foundation Collection Infloential rollection. Mon-Fri 11,20cm-épen, Sat/Sun

12moon-tenn, ends 11 May, £4.75, comes

Butlers Wheel, SEI (0171-403 6933)

Tower Hill Dig. Tower Guesay:

and Hadghim Sarvey of colouring ab-

Proposed Transpires Source or Contains and paracit printings by major British painter Beyond Resource Art and Psychosts West by psychostric patterns of Hams Printing & Mon-Sten Ham-Span (until them Truck & Wed), ends 21 Feb. £5, panes £2,51.

rderc Road, SE1 (0171-960-4242)

Pubri Blahir. Now We Am 64 Re-interpre-tations of scheeted paintings by the gallery's third Awocsane Artest. Earls 5 Jan. free, Making 8. Meaning: Ruberts' Landscapes Rarely explored landscapes in the Flemeth radition, Ends 19 Jan. free. John Julius Anguestein National Gallery Collector, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm (Wed until 8pm), Sun 12noon-6pm, cnds 9 Feb, free. Tusfalgar Square, WCZ (0171-839 3321) & Charing Cross.

The Victorians to the New Elizabethens New glass-walled galleries. Private Eye Times 1961-96 The history of

nee, John Robal Photographic Portrait Award 1996 winning photographs. Ends 19 Jan.

The Art of the Picture Frame Artists, pa-trens and the braming of postrains in Britain. Mon-Sai 10am-open, Sun 12ncon-opin, ends 2 Feb. 43, cones 42.

St Martin's Place, WC2 (0171-306 0055)

Charing Cross.

William Morris & The Crafts Today Morris

explored in the context of 10th century artists, Mon-Thir 10an-10pm, Fri 10am-4pm, Sat/Sun 12noon-10pm, enth 17 Jan,

Crisp Read, W6 (0181-741 2255) ◆ Ham-

Albarta Giacomatti Major retrospective of paintings and scripture, Ends 1 Jan. £5.50, cross £3.75.£1. Living Bridges Proposals for a new habitable bridge. Moo-Sun 10mm-6pm, ends 5 Jan. £5, cons. £3.50 Child £5.50.

comes ELSP Child ELSD.
From Mantegra to Pleasant Drawings from
the Their Collection Smorgashord of drawings that includes Goya, Massee and Abdorfer, More-San Dam-opin, ends (9 Ian. ES,
comes 2,52).

Burlington House, Piccachilly, W1 1/1/71-439 7438) • Piccachilly Circus/Green Purk.

Grand Tour: The Lure of Italy in the Eigh-teenth Century Includes work by Zoffany, Camalego and Claude Leurain. Ends 5 Jan.

En, comes £4. There in the North of England, 1797 Works and pourons from the artist's 18th

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS

TATE GALLERY

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS

NATIONAL PORTRACT GALLERY

DESIGN MUSEUM

HAYWARD GALLERY

NATIONAL GALLERY

Forget Me-Not and the Strange Planet Im-mobilion Colourful farry-tale show for chil-dren aged five and up, with rouse and mage. Genrige Street 191865, 7946941 28-30 Dec. 230pm & 6,30pm, £6,50, cones

Events

EARLS COURT EXHIBITION CENTRE London Inherention Book Show 1997 The sary latest in all things namical with our salt caches. Warned, Rd SW's [1071-1901 1871]

Earls C. From 3 Jan, daily [Gam-7pm (carept of Jan, 10mn-9,0pm, 12 Jan, 12 Jan,

MATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM Sir Joseph Banks: The Greening Of The Employ The dates were of a naturalist who saided the case with Chapt Carle, Comment Rused SW7 (10) 71-938 91,231 ◆ South Kemang-ton, Mor-Sat (Ouer-5,45)pm, San 11 Jan-5,5)pm casts 23 Feb. 15,50, comer £3, child £2.80, under 5% free, family taket £15. a 2.30, under 3's tree, tamby texet £15.

MATIONAL, MARTHIME MUSEUM Among
The Green Boughe: Concert Seasonal I'ul
cratury muse played by costumed druscaro. Remore Read SE 10 (0181-558
4421 BR: Greenwich Mare Hul 28-31
Dec, 11 31ma-lpm, 55-50, conc. £4-50,
châl £3, family ticket £10.

OLYMPIA International Model She OLYMPA Indigrational Model Show Cars-boots, & action figures plain Model Engineer Exhibition, Hammersmath Road W14 (10142) 244-321 (4) Earls Court 29 Dec 4 Jan. Diam-ping 13 Jan. Hum-Spurt, 27-91, cons. £5.50, under Jos. £4, tamby ticket £20 PURCELL ROOM Consummatiques: Extraordinary Story Of The Bagolpes Of France Jaurney Irom 1140 to 1096 with music and stories, Sooth Bank SE 1 [0771-960 42421

Waterkov, 2 Jan. 7, Open, 46-49.

W viaction, 2 Jan. 7, open, 15-29.

ROUNDHOUSE Chlores State Circus

Spectacular acrobats, event. Chalk Farm

Road NW1 (1021-482 7318/420 (078)) ◆

Chalk Farm Tec-Sat & Dec 30, Spen 1ex
cept 31 Dec 7, mars Sat & San & 30 Dec 1,

31 Jan. 230pm, San 5, 30pm, ends 26 Jan.

89-818/50, cones 16-815/50

nees for the dipper crysteoperaty art prize

orks from the Yed Power Collection In-

clades Brancasa, Newman and Dubnifer. Ends to Feb, free. Nicholas Pope Religious-based sculpture. Nion-Sat Haus-Solyon, Nan 2pm-5-Sipm, ends 23 Feb, free. Mathank, SWI [017]-887 8000) ◆ Partice. VICTORIA IL ALBERT MUSEUM

The Raphael Gallery Restored full-size cartoons.
American Photography 1890-1965 Major
wernew including Edward Steichen, Ansel
Adams and Dieme Arbus. Men 1700m-5-50pm, The-Sun 10am-5-50pm, ends 26 Jan,
15, cones 10 (unindes entitates in innsection).
Crounsell Read, SW7 (11171-938 850))

South Kensington.

Dance

LONDON

LONDON COLISEUM The Kirov Ballet: The Nutreacter The British premiere of the Kirov's version of this much-leved ballet, 28 & 3) Dec. 1-4 Jan. 7.30pm, mats 28 Dec, 1-4 Jan, 2.30pm, 31 Dec, 2pm, £12.50-£49.50, St Martin's Lanc, WC2 (0171-£32 8300) • Leicester Square/Charing Cross,

PEACOCK THEATRE my power or Lendon; Cindensia The perhalics company presents Matthew Hart's version, Mon-Sen 7.30m (no perf 1 Jan), mais Sat & Dec 30 & 31 Dec, 2 Jan, 230pn; ends 4 Jan, £750-£750. Portugal Street, WC2 (0171-314 8800)

◆ Hollown.

PICCADILLY THEATRE Adventures in Motion Pictures: Swan Lake Matthew Bearne's acclaimed version with a male corps of swans. Mon-Sat 7.30gm, mars Wed & Sat & 2.1m, 2.30pm, (no mat 1.1m.

£9.50-£30, manufny comes available. Denou Street, W1 10171-369 1734/casting details 0171-434 0194) & Piocadilly Carting ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL English National Ballet: The Nutcracker

Cagain Namous assers (see Nationalise Ben Sieverson's production of the delightful Christmas ballet. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mars 28, 30-31 Dec. 1-4 Jan, 2.30pm, each 11 Jan, 42-53, South Bunk Centre, SE1 (0171-96) 42(2) BR/49 Waterloo. ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.
The Ruyal Ballet: Cinderella Frederick Ashton's production of Probatiles's beloved fairy story, 25 & 31 Des (Battley/Trevnt), 2pm, 25 & 35 Des (Hattley/Trevnt), 2pm, 4 Jan (Hattley/Trevnt), 12pm, 25 & 65.
The Royal Ballet: Swan Liste Anthony Dowell's samptuous production set in Russia, 3 Jan (Yoshida/Multamedwi) 7pm, 25 & 20 & 65.
Covern Garden, WC2 (1177-314 4000)
Covern Garden, WC2 (1177-314 4000)

BASILDON TOWNGATE CENTRE

Adonals Ballet Company: Sleeping Beauty New accessible version scored by Schisbert. Dwynak and others, 101288-7513-431 28 Doc 7pm, mass 28, 30 Dec, 2pm, 29 Doc, 4pm, 13-£10, cones £6, family £26. CARDIFF

ST DAVID'S HALL

Meacow City Bullet: Swan Lake Russian company present the clausic bullet of bullets. 28, 30 Dec. 2-30pm. & 7-30pm. 29 Dec. 5pm. 31 Dec. 2-30pm. & 110.50-C25, course available. Meacow City Bullett Canderwilla The timeless fairy tale with Tchaikwulley's glorious score. The Hayes (01222-878444) 2-5 Jan. 7-30pm, rats. 3-5 Jan. 2-30pm. £10.50-£25, course available.

Pop & jazz

SATURDAY 28 Bjorn Again Ever-popular Australian Abba. The Island High Road, Illord (0181-514 4400) BR: Seven Kings, 8pm, £13.50-£15. Gallon Drunk, Pintp Moody and menacing rock'n'roll from James Johnston and band's new album. In The Long Still Night, plus alenze-funk showmen Pump in support. Garage Highbury Corner NS (0171-607 1818/cc 344 00441 & Highbury & Elington. Spm. £6. Scott Hamilton/Warrent Vache Guartat Popular 194th swing reveals from the States, on lenor sax and trumpet respectively. Pzza Express Dean St W2 (0171-498 7722) Tottenham Ct Rd. 8pm, ends 7 Jan. £20. Lunasend, Drake, Athletice Strip Hard funk from the headliners. The Monarch Chalk Farm Road NW1 (0171-916 1149) & Chalk Farm. Spm, £5. James Taylor Quartet Hammond-led acid

Jazz rank ream.
Jazz Cafe Parkway, NW1 (0171–916 6060)

Camden Town. 7pm, ends 31 Dec, 612,80-615 (phone for availability). Stan Tracty Quartet with Gerard Presencer Leading British beloop punno veteran. Vortes Stoke Newington Church St N16 (0)71-254 65161 BR: Stoke Newington. 9pm, £7-50.

Del Amitri Bactime blues-rock from the perpetually downtrodden foursome. Kilburn National Bellroom Kilburn High Road NW6 (0171-328 3141) & Kilburn. Scott Hamilton/Warren Vache See Saturday. Pizza Express Dean Street 8pm, £14. James Hunder Band Blues and R&B from new album, Believe What I Say.

100 Cub Oxford St W1 (0171-636 0933)

Oxford Circus, 7,30pm, £7, mems £5.

Bert Jansch Folk and blues from the security guitaries of Pentangle fame.
Hall Moon Lower Richmond Rd SWL5 (0181-20) QR3)
Pumcy Bridge, 8,30pm, 25. with London's top freeform jazzers includ-ing notist Etron Denn, plants Alex Magnire, busist Roberto Bellatalla, drum-ther Mark Sanders and guests. Vortus Sanders and guests. Jazz Rumours New Year Seasonal party Magare, bases Roberto Besta.

Mark Sanders and guests.

Vortes Stoke Newington Church Street N16
(0171-254 6516) BR: Stoke Newington. Planet Of The Apes Peerlessly presented trashy, brussy, garage rock, standards and theme innes. Boston Arms Junction Road N19 (0171-272 34/1) ◆ Tufnell Park, Spm, free. James Taylor Quartet See Saturday. Jazz Cale 7pm, £12.50-£15.

MONDAY 30 Donell Jones, Men of Vizion, Dru Hill US R&B and swingboat. Hammersmith Palais Shepherds Bosh Road W6 (0181-748 2812) & Hammersmith.

Louis Moholo Quartet South African dru Locus measures South Authors around the more, noted for his work with Sun Ra and Se-vic Wonder, here with London's free paze else. Vortex Stoke Newington Courteh St N16 (0171-254 6516) BR: Stoke Newington. 8,30pm, 15. James Taylor Quartet See Saturday. Jazz Citie 7pm, £12.50-£15.

Start Tracey 70th Birthday Concert Britain's foremost jazz panns with a 15-piece featuring Bobby Wellins, Peter King, Art Theman and Genzel Presencer. Buil's Head Lonsdele Road SW13 (0181 876 5241) BR: Barnes Bridge, Spm, £8. TUESDAY 31

Abbs Gold, Woody Bop Moddy Abbs tributc. with record-smashing comedian WBM. The Forum Highgare Road NW5 (0171-344 0044) BR/© Remish Town 8pm-3am, £15. Asito Ghanuat hi-life, jazz. funk, zouk and reggae fusionists.
Pink Parachute Club Lewisham Labour Club, Limes Grove SE13 (0181-690 0431)
BR: Ladywell/Lewisham. 9pm, £5, £4 with

Biom Again Sec Saurday. Blackheath Concert Halls Lee Road SE3 (0181-463 0100) BR: Blackheath. 9pm, £30. Alan Burke, Steafan Hannigan & Toreste
Hannue Critic folk session with Burke of Af-terhours and Sin-Er Hannigan and Heanne,
Hammersmith & Futham Irish Centre
Blacks Road W6 (0181-563 8232)

Plannth Apon, phone for prices.

David Devant & His Spirit Wife Glan English pop with shades of the music hall. The Powerhaus Seven Saters Road N4 (0171-344 0044) & Finsbury Park, Spm, £X, De Didg Didgerideo-fronted world music. Mean Fiddler, Acoustic Room High Street NVII (0181-961 5490/cc 734 8932) BR: Willesdeu Junction. Spin, £9.

Edward II, Wavet Folk and reggas dance band with soul, calypeo and reggas support. Watermans Arts Centre High Street, Brezz-ford, Middleam (1811-568 1176)

Gua-nersbury, 8,30pm, £15. The Egg New Age psychodelic techno. Spissh at The Felcon Royal College Street NW1 (0171-482 2022) ◆ Camden Town. 7.30pm, £10.

Miles Fab-Gere & The Permissive Society Klisch seventies covers.
The Roadhouse The Piazza, Covers Garden
Market WC2 (0171-240 6001) ◆ Covent
Garden, 9pm, £20. Johnny Guitar L Will Kevans Blocs and

roots-rock.

12 Ser Club Denmark St WCC (0171-9)6
69891 Tomenham Court Road, Spm. £10. Scott Hemitton/Warren Veche See Samrday. Pizza Express Oeen Street Spm, £14. Limehouse Lizzy Thin Lizzy tribute. Mean Fiddler Harlesden High Street NW10 (0181-961 5490) BR; Willesden Junction. kun £7.

11. Cool J. Total, Das EFX, Shai, Shois Li. Cool J, Total, Das E.P.A, State, Shoes Arma Old skeed smoothy rapper LLCI heads this hip hop affair. London Arena Limeharbour, Isle Of Dogs-El4 (0171-536 1212) DLR: Cross Harbour. 6.30pm, £30.

My Life Story, Bibini Beach Band Pop melodrama from Jake Shillingford's string-laden big band MLS, with Hawatian covers from BBB. from BBB. Hackney Empire Mare Street E8 (0181-985 2424) BR: Hackney Central, 9pn-3am, £15. Orbital The festival-friendly techno duo head a Hogmanny rave-up with Dis Sven Vath, Gayle San, Sasha and Ion Digweed, Paul Onkenfold, Marshali Jefferson, Chem ran Chichers and James Lavelle. Marandra Palace Wood Green N22 (017)-344 0044) BR: Alexandra Palace, Spin-Sam

The Paper Celtic folk-rock from Shane MacGowan's band.
The Swan Claphten Road SW9 (0171-978 9778) ◆ Stockwell Spm, £10. Push, Eva Seventies-style funk from Push, with psychedetic folk from Eva-tempa's Eva-lactoor's Lane Community Centre Archesty Road N6 (0(81-341 4421) © Higheste. open, 222.

Ian Shaw with Carol Grimes Extraordinary soul-jazz surger and plantst ducts with bluesy diva Carol Grimes.

Votes Stoke Newingston Church St N16 (0171-254 6516) BR: Stoke Newingston. Spin. £12.

James Taylor Guartat See Saturday. Jazz Cata 7pm, £12.50-£15. Tiger, Toester Much-tipped synth-led team in the Stereolah drone pap vein. Garage Highbury Corner N5 (0171-607 1818) • Highbury & Islington, Span, £10-£12. WEDNESDAY I

Bobby Wellins Scott Stromso Quinted Mainstream jazz untorist thiels with trom-tomist Stroman, featuring characteristic drammer Brian Abrahams. Vortex Striks Neuroscott Vortex Stoke Newington Church Street N16 10171-254 6516) BR: Stoke Newington. 8.30pm, 56. THURSDAY 2

Christine Tobin, Richard Fairhurst's Hun-gy Arts Babel Records showcase with follo-ciged hish pize sugar Christine Tobin pize pamist Richard Fairhurst's spily contempo-rary quartet The Hungry Amis. Jazz Cafe Parkway NWI (1071-916 6080] © Camden Town, 7pm, 58. Scott Hamilton/Warren Vache See Samrday. Pizza Express Dean Street Spm, £16.

FRIDAY 3 FRIDAY 3
Julian Anguelles 8, the Vortex Juzz Quartet
Left-field ox-Loose Tubes converts, with gaments John Paricelli and planns How Warren.
Vortex Stoke Newingson Church Street N16
(0171-254 6516) BR: Stoke Newingson. The Condysides States rooted Oxford rockers.

The Island High Road, Dford (0181-514 4400) BR: Seven Kings, 9-70pm, 15, 55-50 before 10pm. Scott Hamilton/Warren Vertie Sco Sarunlay. Plaza Express Dean Street Spra, £20. Robert Maseito & Chaics Chaics Soulous Zahrean bandleader with full band line-up and dancers.

Africa Centre Ring St WC2 (0171-312 1996)

Covern Gn.Lancester Sq. 9pm, 16-17. Covern Critzacoster Sq. sym., 15-27.
The Measurs Psychobilly band from the Eighties Kinh Fore days.
Verus Cifico Rise SEM 10181-692 40771
BR. New Criss, Spm. £5, croses £5 before

3 Street

3

Houston Person Blocsy US scal-jazz (mor veterán and nos-time Etta Jemes sidekick Jazz Cate Pariwsy NW1 (UI 71-916 6060) • Camden, 7pm, ends 4 Jan, £12, adv £10. A Tribule to Phil Lynott With Dizzy Lizzy, Rude Awaktehing, The Big Generator, The Rivel Gods, and Philoseness Lynott.
Glibum National Balleroem Kalburn High Road NWh (D171-326 51-11) ◆ Kilburn.

Peter King Highly advanced beloop alrows. Borford Flores Jacz Club Broad Street (01787-210247) 3 Jan. 8.30pm, £9, BRISTOL

N-Person Local capus tests. This Freeze St Thomas Street (0117-927 7150) 31 Dec. 7.30pm, 88. CAMBRIDGE

CHELTENHAM Miles D'Abo & His Mighty Busin Singer of Shitles propuers Manfred Mann. Town Hall Imperial Square 101242-227979) 31 Dec. 8.45pm, phone for availability. CRONDALL

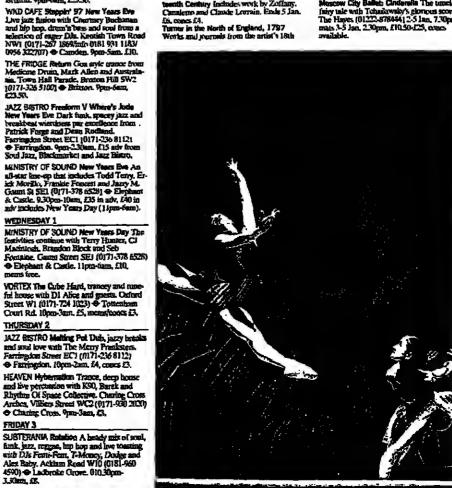
7.30pm, E30 toc dener. GUILDFORD

festivities continue with Terry Hunter, CI Macintoch, Brandon Block and Seb Footaine, Gestri Street SEJ (0171-378 6528) ◆ Elephant & Castle, 11pm-fam, £10, mems free. VORTEX The Cube Hard, trancey and nune-ful house with D1 Alice and guesta. Oxford Street W1 (0171-724 1(23) & Tottenham The Hamsters Southend blues-rockers. Rasway Hotel Forball Road (01473-728701) 29 Dec. 8pm, phone for prices. Court Rd. 10pm-3am. 25, mems/cooks 23.

WEDNESDAY 1

IAZZ BSTRO Melting Pot Dub, jazzy breaks and soul love with The Merry Prantsters. Farringdon Street EC1 (#171-236 8112) ◆ Farringdon, 10pm-2mt, £4, comes £3. HEAVEN Hybernation Trance, deep house HEAVEN HYDERIMIENT TYPICE, there house and live perchasion with K90, Barek and Rhythm Of Space Collective. Charing Cross Arches, Villiem Street WC2 (0171-93) 2020) ◆ Charing Cross. 9pm-3am, 43.

SUSTERANIA Ratation A heady mix of soul, funk, juzz, regues, imp hop and live treasting with Dis Festis-Fem. T-Menocy, Dodge and Alex Raby. Ackham Read W10 (0181-960 4590). © Lacbroke Grove. 010.30pm. toth where a true for loss for the saw veteran joins the swing band bequesthed by big loc. B Dec. 7. Upon. 110.
The likiter Band, Glem Starn, Rubbarhand Glam-rocking Hogmanay with Gary's erst-while backing band.
Guildhall NorthGuild, Commercial Road (01703-632601) 31 Dec. 7. Upon. 115.



BLUE NOTE Nature Talent 97 Vibrant house and garage with DJ 279, Comments Swift and St. John Synjen' de-Zuva. Housen

The City of London Ballet's production of Matthew Hart's Cinderella

The stories behind some of the most memorable media images of the last year are discussed by editors, picture editors and the photographers themselves - one way of remembering 1996 in all its ignominy (Dunblane, TWA flight 800, the Canary Wharf bomb, right...) and glory (Take That break up.... Gazza's goal against Scotland...). There's a more traditional review of the year's events on Monday 30 Dec on BBC1.





Film of the Day

Heaven and Earth Sun 10.10pm BBC2

I'm not a great fan of Oliver Stone's bombastic, in-yer-face style of film-making, and I think his politics – if you want to be kind about it – are just a tad mixed-up. However, Stone (left) does breach subjects that Hollywood is largely silent about, and this 1993 offering is, in a way, the third part of his Vietnam trilogy (the other two being Olertons and Para on the County of the other trilogy). two being Pistoon and Born on the Fourth of July). This time, the conflict is seen through the eyes of a Vietnamese peasant woman.

Sunday television and radio

BBC 1

7.00 PASS Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines (Ken Annakin 1965 UK). Jolly aviation comedy about a sponsored London to Paris air race. Stuart Whitman, Sarah Miles, James Fox and Terry-Thomas star (67691894). *

10.00 The Quo Vadis? (Mervyn LeRoy 1951 US). Peter Ustinov fiddles as Rome burns, and centurion Robert Taylor falls for Christian woman Deborah Kerr (67504374). *

1.15 News (82701829).
1.25 Torn and Jerry (48988349).
1.30 Just William (R) (S) (2050-1). *
2.00 The Bookworm (S) (8405). *
2.30 EastEnders Omnibus (S) (3998423). *

Robin Cousins (S) (3868639). 4,10 The World of Peter Rabbit and Friends. Animated

5.50 Regional News (483523). 5,55 Songs of Praise. New Year worship from Vienna

(S) (762368), *

7.15 Antiques Roadshow: The Next Generation.

8.00 Only Fools and Horses. Raquel ponders the wisdom of inviting her parents to a dinner party at Nelson Mandela House (S) (5233). *

9.00 Way Out West Starring Richard Wilson. See Preview, p24 (S) (290813). *

9.50 News and Weather (57.4436). *
10.05 The Frank Skinner Show (S) (229.146). 10.45 The Spirit of 66 with Alf Garnett, Curious programme in which "Alf Garnett" (Warren Mitchell) presents moments from the World Cup

that year, Any reason? (971726). 11.45 (1994). Michael Caine sleeps his way through the birds of 5winging London In this influential sex comedy

1.35 THE Funeral in Berlin (Guy Hamilton 1966 UK).

9.10 News (3685900). 9.15 The Good Book Guide (S) (1109349). 9.30 First Light (5) (27417).

12.45 The World's Strongest Man (S) (105436). * 1.15 News (82701829). *

3.25 The Wizard of Oz on Ice. As choreographed by The Tale of Tom Kitten and Jemima Puddleduck (R) (S) (1272184). *

4.35 EastEnders Omnibus (S) (3732469), * 5.35 News and Weather (299610). *

6.30 Last of the Summer Wine Christmas Special (5) Special roadshow for youngsters from The Royal Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh (S) (419184).

of 1966 with music, comedy and news footage of

Millicent Martin, Jane Asher, Denholm Elliott and Shelley Winters co-star (543894).

Michael Caine again – this time in Harry Palmer mode in the follow-up to the previous year's The lpcress File (766498).

3.15 Weather (41892450). To 3.20am.

BBC2

7.30 Children's BBC: Joe 90. 7.55 Playdays. 7.50 Children's BBC: JOB 90. 7.55 Playdays.
8.15 Bitsa. 8.30 Jackanory Golds. 8.45
Highlander. * 9.10 The fitsy Bitsy Spider. 9.30
Incredible Games. * 10.00 The Mask. * 10.25
Grange Hill. * 10.50 Blue Peter. The Sest Bits. *
11.20 Bay City.
11.45 The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures.
Perfessor Stores Common Marie Illegures have

Professor Simon Conway Morris discusses how the study of fossils can provide a fascinating

the study of fossis can provide a fascinating insight into ancient natural history, recording clues as to the speed of the earth's rotation and the movement of prehistoric animals (S) (892610). *

12.45 The Simpsons (S) (9180271). *

1.10 Similar Fantastic Voyage (Richard Fleischer 1966 US). A top scientist suffers severe brain damage during an assassination attempt, forcing a medical team to be miniaturised to microscopic size and loiseted inside his body to effect a miratle cure. Injected inside his body to effect a miracle cure.

Not available on the NHS, Starring Raquel Welch and Donald Pleasence (60390639). *

2.45 Cartoons (3990829).

3.00 The Phil Silvers Show. Bilko reveals his gambling

secrets while talking in his sleep (R) (1823436) 3.25 The Essential Olympics. New series. Desmond Lynam celebrates 100 years of the modern games, introducing archive footage of the so-called Chariots of Fire Games of 1924 and the

infamous 1936 Olympics in Berlin (S) 4.25 Choir of the Year. The final (S) (8568928). 5.15 Rugby Special. Highlights from Leicester v Harlequins, and a preview of next week's

European Cup Final semi-finals (S) (789287). 6.15 Star Trek: Voyager, Haakonian grief (S) 7.00 American Visions, Robert Hughes concludes his excellent series with The Age of Anxiety - art in the age of Nixon and the Vietnam War (S) (7455).

8.00 Decisive Moments: Review of the Year. Photographers, picture editors and agencies tell the stories behind the year's newsworthy images (S) (3875), * See Pick of the Day, above 9.00 The Moonstone. 1/2. See Preview, p24 (S)

(5728225). 10.10 Heaven and Earth (Oliver Stone 1993 US). Having chronicled the American experience of the Vietnam War, Stone turns his attention to the Vietnamese themselves - following one woman from a peaceful childhood in a peasant village through the traumatic events of the war to her role as the wife of a US serviceman in America, See Film of the Day, above (S) (24423349).

12.25Luck, Trust and Ketchup. Behind-the-scenes on Robert Altman's film Short Cuts (454160).

2.05 Weather (5446540). To 2.10am.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV (7363097). 9.25 The World's Greatest Magic (5912287). 10.15 Link (3517287). * 10.30 Sunday Live (17338). 11.00 Morning Worship (27504). 12.00 Sunday Live (91558). 12.30 it's a Tiny Toon Christmas (29829). 1.00 News (99103900). 1.10 Best of Treasures (163091).

(1623981). 2.10 Pete's Dragon (Don Chaffey 1977 US). Poor Disney live action and animation mix (the dragon is animated) about a lonely orphan and his protective fire-breathing chum. Jim Dale, Mickey Rooney and Helen Reddy star (61508591). * 4.40 The Making of Moli Flanders. A report on the

preparation and work that went into filming the recent bodice-ripper (1249097).
5.10 Tales of the Turf. Final programme in the series

about the world of horse racing (7743165). 5.40 Local News, Weather (556417). * 5.55 Step Steeping Beauty (Clyde Geronimi 1959 US). Disney animation about the young princess with the big snooze habit. Expensively made, but not one of Uncle Walt's best (S) (4054436). *

7.20 News, Weather (412455). *
7.30 Coronation Street. Curly is bernused to find himself the centre of attention as both Anne and

Maxine confess their feelings for him. Credibility check, please (436). *
8.00 ENEST The Living Daylights (John Glen 1987 UK). Timothy Dalton makes his debut as a rather dour, po-faced James Bond, helping the Soviet authorities hunt down a renegade KGB defector who is batting for both sides. The idea was to go back to the series' roots, but that didn't spell great entertainment. Maryam d'Abo, Joe Don Baker and Art Malik "lend" support (S) (50017691). * 10.25 Hale and Pace Down Under. Naughty fellas

Gareth Hale and Norman Pace return from Australia with some new characters and sketches (S) (863504). *

11.25 News, Weather (201610). *
11.39 LWT Weather (617542).
11.40 The Beatles Anthology. The moptops stop touring, retreat into the studio and return with the Sergeant Pepper album (R) (S) (285368). *

1.40 Enter Mahler (Ken Russell 1974 UK), Typically daft, overblown Ken Russell biography – restrained only by the low budget. Robert Powell plays the Austrian composer, while Georgina Hale is his stifled wife, Alma (81363837). 3.45 Cool Vibes (R) (56465030). 4.05 INVIII The New Adventures of Pippi Longstocking

(Ken Annakin 1988) Tami Erin stars as the mischievous young girl with an amazing array of supernatural powers (S) (47929301). 5.55 News (4793214). To 6.00am. Channel 4

6,15 Bitz! (R) (S) (4608184).
7.10 The Hill Bitlie Goats (R) (7961146).
7.35 Bitlier Mice from Mars (1676523).
8.00 Hang Time (S) (7854542).
8.25 The Adventures of Hyperman (7937829).
8.55 Insektors (S) (9976271).
9.15 Saved by the Bell (R) (928829). *
9.45 California Press (847900).

10.15 Happy Days (R) (8493320). 10.40 Hollyoaks Omnibus (S) (6268542). * 11.40 The Waltons (R) (3824097). *

12.40 God in the House. Raving Christians (9183368). 1.05 Show Business (5473233). 2.10 Stent Love. German short (64667436). 2.30 The Robe (Henry Koster 1953 US). Roman centurion Richard Burton annoys Caligula by converting to the new-fangled Christian faith. Jean

Simmons is the reason why (61355542). * 5.05 Brookside Omnibus (S) (4694436). * 6.30 Two Fat Rorys. Rory Bremner celebrates his 50th

show for Channel 4 with his two "characters", weatherman Ian McCaskill and Des Lynam (894). 7.00 Women at Play: A Lady's Guide to Casinos. See Preview, p24 (S) (7981). *
7.30 Just Dancing Around? Mark James profiles

choreographer Trisha Brown, heroine of the Sixties avant-garde scene. See Preview, p24 (S) (62707). *

8.30 Ride the High Country (Sam Peckinpah 1962 US). Sam Peckinpah's second film is a beautifully photographed western starring Randolph Scott as a lawman-turned-circus Randolph Scott as a lawman-turned-circus sharpshooter who agrees to help transport gold bullion to a bank, but plans to steal it en route, Joel McCrea co-stars (76573962). *

10.15 The Ballad of Little Jo (Maggie Greenwald 1993 US). Interesting and unusural film starring Suzy Amis as an 1860s New York socialite thrown out of bor status.

out of her father's house after bearing an illegitimate child and being forced to start a new life in the Wild West - as a man (24417788 12.30 The Oklahoma Kid (Lloyd Bacon 1939 US).

James Cagney makes an unlikely cowboy as he sets out to avenge himself on Humphrey Bogart for his father's death (38943). 2.00 Eits The Public Enemy (William A Wellman 1931 US). Classic gangster thrifler lives up to its reputation. You can see why it put James Cagney on the map as the bootlegger on his way to the top, by way of smashing a grapefruit in Mae Clarke's face. Edward Woods, Jean Harlow and

Joan Blondell co-star (26382). 3.30 The Ricordi Saga, 4/4. Last in the series about the Ricordi family. Verdi is dead and Puccini is trying to finish Turandot (78721). To 5.00am.

ITV/Regions

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ANOLIX As London except: 12.30pm. James Bond Jrc (29829).

1.10 The Making of Star Test. First Contact (30719610).

1.40 Kief-Off Livel (935874361. 4.15 Goldeneye: The Secret Files (647097). 4.45 Bugs Bunny Overtures to Disaster (606900).

1.40em Iurstant Replay 1996 (2737540).

2.40em Bushell on the Box (5541194).

3.10em Funcy Business (82103382). 3.40em Film: Wicards of the Lost Kingdom (3916818). 5.00-5.30em Not Fade Away (93382).

CHANGE 3 NORTH EAST/YORKSHIRE As London except: 12.30pm Channel 3 North East: World CHANGES .1 NORTH EAST/TORISHING.

As London except 1.2.30pm Changel 3 North East. World of Wonder (9)89542). Yorks: Goals on Sunday (9)89542). 1.10 Coronation Street (307)96101. 1.40 Firs a They Toon Christmas (2)742639). 2.05 Masters of Busion (9814879). 2.55 Film: Pale's Dragon (29425079). 5.25 Carboon Time (5696417). 1.40em Films (3angel (84013255). 4.355.55em Films Race for Your Life, Charlie Brown (9692769).

As London encapt: 12.30pm Central Newsweek (9189542). 1.10 Masters of Russon (9151768). 2.00 The Central Nation – Liet (86947894). 4.15-5.50pm Plan: The Steepers (47829441).

As London except: 12.25pm West: It's a Tirry Troin Christems (#183786). Water: Petiessen (#183736). 1.40 Wales: Pilm: Peter's Deagon (#4107455). 2.00 West: The West Matth: - Livel (#1528455). 3.55 Water: Masters of Illusion (#169097). 4.25 West: World of Wonder (#460558). 4.50 Wester: Tellyphonin (*2483977). 4.55 West: Masters of Illusion (#117523). 1.40am Instant Replay 1996 (#2737540). 2.40am Beshalt on the Box (#541194). 3.10am Furny Brances (#2103382). 3.40am Film: Wizards of the Lost Kingdom (*3916818). 5.00-5.30am Not Face Away (*99382).

MERIOUM
As London except. 12.30pm Cartoon Time (3730504).
1.10 Films Freeze Frame (9942271). 2.40 Cartoon Time (1528904). 2.45 Films Freeze Dragon (61345165). 5.20 Grass Roots Compalitions (8933097). 1.40em Instant Replay 1996 (2737540). 2.40em Bushell on the Box (5541794). 3.10em Furny Bushness (82103382). 3.40em Films Wazarts of the Lost Kingdom (3916818). 5.00-5.30em Not Facta Away (99382).

WESTCOMPRY
As London except: 12.30pm Westcountry Update
(918)54(2). L10 Pongo's Tai: The Making of 101 Dalmeliars (307.1961(0). L40 Mesiers of Busin (4673417).
2.30 Goldensye: The Secret Files (75097). 3.30 Film:
Petr's Dragon (505097). 1.40em Instant Reptry 1996
(2737540). 2.40em Bushell on the Box (5541394).
3.10em Funny Business (82103382). 3.40em Film: Waards of the Lost Kingdom (3916818). 5.00-5.30am Not
Fade Away (99382).

340
As C4 except: 12,40pm Rownd a Rownd (9532542), 1.30 Stot Meiltein (46542), 2.00 Arolog y Flwyddyn (13813), 3.00 Coping with Christmas (5900), 3.30 Party of Flw (9148504), 4.25 Brodeide (713523), 5.50 News (480813), 6.00 Anthr Flow Wow Merfyn (23229), 7.30 Pabol y Chem (338), 7.30 Dechrau Cimu, Deckmal Caerrol (338), 8.00 Twdo (574271), 8.55 Y Phimark Aut (714952), 9.55 News (24504), 1.005 Flore Shopping (214610), 11.45-1.30am Film: The World's Oldest Living Bridesmaid (658356),

Radio Choice Secret Bedrooms (7pm R1)



6: 629 Sec 7/5 7.00am Keym Greening 10.00 Dave

Pearce 2.00 Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation 4.00 Lik Top 40 7.00 Secret

pleased 1.00 Desmand Carrington

3.00 Benty Green 4.00 A Year to

comes with a warning that some may find it distasteful; though frankly, this catalogue of the things that go on in teenage bedrooms (sex, smoking, oversleeping, untidiness) is rather less frank and fearless than most poems by the Earl of Rochester. hero of Stephen Jeffreys' play, The Libertine (7.30pm R3) and played by Bill Nighy (left). Remember 4.30 Sing Something Simple 5.00 Pain Ayres 7.00 Hugh Scully 8.30 Sunday Hati Hour 9.00 Alan Kelth 10.00 The David Jacobs

Bedrooms See Chaice, above, 8.00 John Peel, Fersive 50 Part 4 10,00 Best Albums of 1996 12,00 Andy Radio 3 sershay 4.00-7.00am Charke Jordan 130 2 97 4MHz FMD & 4,16: 10 7.00em Por Maclean 9,05 Stree Wrang's Sunday Love Songs 11.00 The Best of Parkerson's Sunday Sun

Collection 11.00 The Arts Programme 12.05 Adman Finighan 3.00-7.00am Steve Madden 6.55am News Headlines; Weather. 7.00 Sacred and Profane.

9.00 Brian Kay in Vienna.

12.15 Robert Woolley, Froberger: Toccate No 4 in F, Sude No 1 in A minor, Suite No 18 or G minor.

Bach: Partita No 3 In A minor, BWV827. 1.00 The Liquid Companion, Andrew Jefford braves the horizontal rain of Islay to discover the secrets beind one of the most flavoursome whiskies produced north of the

ture: Helios, Glinka: Valse-Fan-taisie. Prokoflev: Piano Conerto No 2. Nielsen: Symphony No 2. 2.45 Sprit of the Age. George Pratt reports from the Armenian monastery on the island of San Lazzaro in the Venetian lagoon, one of the few places in the world

still practising the ancient tradition of American chant. 3.45 Thomas Hampson at the Wigmore. The American bantone
Thomas Hampson in a recital giv more Haff, London, to mark the centenary of composer Carl Loewe, Loewe: Gruss am Meer; Die Überfahrt: Das Fischermad-then; Über allen Gipfeln; Der du Von der Himmel; Ich Denke Dein. Der Zumenden Diana, Die Gotter Grechenlands, Schumann: Liede und Gesange aus dem Lynschen

5.45 The Sunday Feature: Walter Legge. Walter Legge, the founder of the Philharmonia, was one of

the last preat impresarios, whose formidable authority helped shape postwar music. Natalie Wheen explores the man with contampo-raries, colleagues and his widow. 6.30 Chopin by Arrangement. Re-

certo No 1 in E minor. 7.30 The Sunday Play: The Libertine. Set in the Condon of 1675, Stephen Jeffreys' drama centres on the louche figure of John Wilmot, Earl of Roches

every kind. See Choice, left. 9.10 Choir Works, Francois Couperin: Messe Solonnelle a l'Usage des Paroisses. The season of music for the Mass continues with a perfor-mance from the Chapel Royal in the Palace of Versailles. 11.15 Closer to the Gods. Janet

arrangements of music by Chopin, presented by Jeremy Nicholas. Chopin, orch Balakirav: Piano Con-

poet, wit and Restoration hero, he was regularly banished from the court of Charles II for excesses of

1.00 Through the Night. 5.30-6.30ant Sequence.

Top-Fagon explores the African music of possession and transa, including the Girama spirit dance from eastern Kenya, Sufi caremonles from horthern Morocco,

and the calling-down of the spirits in the Bleiste cult among the Anlo people of Ghana. (1/2). 11.45 Record Review.

Radio 4 192 4-94 6MHz FM. 1986Atz LWS 6.00am News. 6.10 Something Understood.

7,00 News. 7,10 Sunday Papers. 7.15 On Your Farm. 7.40 Sunday. 9.00 News. 9.10 Sunday Papers. 9.15 Letter from America.

9.30 Morning Service. 10.15 The Archers. Omnibus edition. 11.15 (LW) Test Maken Special. Commentary on the fourth day of the Second Test, with Peter Baxter, Henry Blotekt and Simon Mann. 11.15 (FM) Proud Walker. Orama

telling the story of the man who single-handedly relaid the founda-tions of Winchester Cathedral. 11.45 (FM) Foreign Correspondence Red Harrison describes life in Syd ney as a foreign correspondent. 12.15 (FM) Desert Island Discs.

With author Martin Arnis. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World This Weekend. 1.10 (LW) Test Match Special. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 (LW) Test Match Special.
2.00 (FM) Gardeners' Question Time.
2.30 Classic Serial: Alice in Wonder-land. By Lewis Carroll. Alice finds her way into a magical garden. 5.30 Poetry Pleasel 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 United States of Anger. Gavin

Ester examines why so many Americans are apathetic about 6.30 Whispering Among the Leaves. Evocative recordings of woodland sounds, from rustling leaves to resonant tree trunks.
7.00 A Good Read, Sarah Dunant invites satirists John Bird and John

3.30 Fick of the Year. 4.15 Tales from the Organ Loft. Jere-

church organist.
5.00 Something to Write Home

About, Comedy duo Sean Foley and Hamish McColl take their

vaudeville show Stop Calling Me

ple the delights of Bollywood along

my Summerly presents an in-depth insight into the world of the

Fortune to discuss their three favourite paperbacks 8.00 Gardening Under the Raj. Sue Phillips examines how British hor-ticulturalists attempted to trans-form the Indian landscape. 8.30 Making History. Christopher An-draw continues his intimate took at the work of historians.

9.00 Glory Days. 9.30 Strictly TT. An apreciative profile

of Terry-Thomas by Michael Pointon, 10,00 News. 10,15 Medicine Now.

11.15 Ode to Hilversum. An look at how the medium of radio complements and inspires poetry. With contributions from Brenden Kenford, Kathleen Jamie and Ken

11.45 Seeds of Faith. Mike Ford embarks on a pitgrimage to Ephesus in western Turkey, meeting pilgrims from across the world as

travel in the tootsteps of St Paul. 12.00 News. 12.20 Bells on Sunday. From Orleans, Massachusetts.

12.30 The Late Story: Rumpole and

the Widow Twankey. By John Mortimer. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00-6.00am As World Service.

183, 999 to mile 6.05 am Hold the Front Page Christ-mas Special 6.30 Breakfast 9.05 Sunday with Mair 11.35 Frostbite and Footbolds 12.05 The Big Byte 12.35 Crime Desk 1.05 Gary Linek-self Synthus Specie 6.05 Seventees

er's Sunday Sport 6.05 Sportscall 7.00 News Extra 7.35 You Cannot Be

Serious 8.35 The Irish In Britain 9.00 Dallyn Workhvide 10.05 Add Test 10.35 Out This Week 11.00 Night Extra 11.35 SportsAmerica 12.05 Night Moves 2.05 Up All Night 5.05-6.00am Entertainment '96

Classic FM [100.0-10]_SWHZ FM

m Sarah Lucas 9.00 New Yea Classic Romance 12.00 Celebrity Choice 1.00 Alan Mann's Packed Lunch 3.00 Adjentus: Songs of Sanc-tuary 4.00 Best of Classic Discoveries 1996 6.00 A Question of Classics 7.00 Countdown Top 10 of 1996 8.00 World Opera 10.30 Howard's Week 12.00 Andre Leon 4.00-6.00am Mark Griffiths.

(1215, 1197-1260Wtz MW 105.8W8tz FM) 6.00am Janey Lee Grace 10.00 Gra-ham Dene 2.00 Bobby Hain 6.00 Lynn Parsons 10.00 Gary Davies 2.00-6.00am Howard Pearce

World Service

(1984) William Newsdesk 1.30 Short Story 1.45 On the Move 2.00 Newsdey 2.30 Anything Goes 3.00 News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Heritage 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Oif the Shaft: Web Central 4.45 Country Style 5.00 Newsday 5.30-6.00am Composer of the Month

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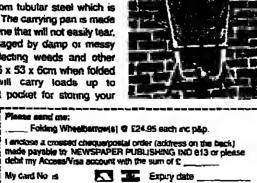
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Satellite and Cable

6.00am Hour of Power (48610). 7.00 My Little Pony (8635875). 7.25 Dynamo Duck (6918900). 7.30 Delly and His Friends (69504), 8.00 Orson and Olivia (89504). 8,00 Orson and Olivia (36691). 8,30 Free Willy (35962). 9,00 The Best of Geraldo (71436). 10,00 Young Indiana Jones Chroni-cles (65788). 11,00 Farker Lewis Can't Lose (97726). 11,30 Real TV (98455). 12,00 WWF. Supers-17 (34453). 12.00 Wrr: Superstars (86184). 1.00 Star Trek (62504). 2.00 Mysterious Island (33691). 3.00 The New Adventures of Superman (92271). 4.00 King Fu (88078). 5.00 Great Escapes (7523), 5.30 Muppets Capes (7323), 5.30 mappes fonight! (3436), 6.00 The Simp-sons (4879), 6.30 The Simpsons (7829), 7.00 Beverly Hills 90210 (23639), 8.00 The New Adventures of Superman (36977), 9.00 The X Files Reopened (12523), 10.00 Millenium (15610), 11.00 Manhunter (66417). 12.00 60 Minutes (31382). 1.00 Civil Wars (67382). 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix Long Play (95653).

7.00pm Xena: Warrior Princess 11822726). 8.00 Metrose Placa (1802962). 10.00 Poltergeist: The Legacy (1821097). 11.00 Seinfeld (2139287). 11.30 Who Do You Do? (5982349), 12.00 Film: Movers and Shakers (1985) (2648566). 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix

6.00am Dreamer (1979) (37252). 8.00 The Neptune Factor (1973) (57271). 10.00 Freefall: Flight 174 (1993) (49468726). 11.55 1/4 (1993) (4903/76), 11-38 Octopussy (1983) (64031748) 2,05 Other Women's Children (1993) (969146), 4,00 Thunder-ball (1965) (29068558), 6,10 Goldfinger (1964), James Bond

races one or in most cangarous assignments when he tangles with ruthless bullion smuggler Goldfinger and his deadty mute sideldck Odd-job. Tongue-in-check adventure, with Sean Connery, Gert Frobe and Honor Blackman (94529788). 8.00 Hercules and the Amazon
Women (1994). The mighty mythical hero sets out with his friand to
rescue the residents of a small village from a gang of Amazonian women, Adventure, starring Kevin Sorbo, Anthony Quinn and Michael Hurst (21271). 10.00 Judge Dredd 11995). Sci-fi thriller starring Sylvester Stallone, Armand Assanta, Max von Sydow and Diane Lane (1992-1). 11.40 The Mode Starte (853523). 11.40 The Movie Show (644436). 12.10 Romeo is Bleed-ing (1993) (187011). 1.55 Love in the Strangest Way (1993) (850276). 3.40-5.10am New Eden (1994) (86212363). MONTE CHANNEL

Balts and Prisoners of the Sun (1987) (4402417). 7.20 The Care Bears Movie II: A New Generation (1986) (7125900). 8.40 Sherlock Undercover Dog (1994) (1850558). 9.55 The Man with the Golden Gun (1974) (85496639). 12.00 Johnny's Girl (1995) (45436), 2.00 The Spy Who Loved Me (1977) (35784). 4.00 Rookie of the Year (1993) (9504). 6.00 As Good as Dead (1995). Two women swap identities to allow one to use the other's medical insurance - but when events take a tragic turn, the remaining friend begins to realise there may be more to the situation than meets the eye. Thriller starring Traci Lords, Judge Reinhold and Crystal Bernard (24368). 8.00 Circle of Friends (1995). A naive young woman leaves her small vil-lage home to attend university in

6.00am Tintin: The Seven Crystal

1950s Dublin, where her eyes are opened to city life by an old friend. Heart-warming romantic drama starring Chris O'Donnell, Minnie Oriver and Colin Firth (29813). 10.00 Le Colonel Chabert (1994). An officer returns home from the Napoleonic wars after being reported missing in action - only to find his wife using his fortune to advance the career of her second hus band. French drame, starring Girard Departieu, Fanny Ardant and Claude Rich (147829). 11.55 There Goes My Baby (1994). Com-edy drama set in 1965, tollowing a group of soon-to-graduate college students as they prepare for life in the big, bad world. Starring Dermot Mulroney, Rick Schroder, Kelli Williams and Noah Wyle (979320), 1.35 Hollywood Madam (1994) (1930566), 3.05 A Dangerous Affair (1994) (284450). 4.40-5.55am Sherlock: Undercover Dog (1994) (44053295). **SKY MOVIES GOLD**

11.00am The Yearling (1946) (91281233). 1.10 The Great Santini (1979) (93471875). 3.05 The Man Who Knew Too Much (1956) (58527146), 5.05 Patton (1970) (61143542), 8.00 Cousins (1989). Ted Danson and Isabella Rosselini play cousins struggling against their own powerful mutua attraction while their respective spouses are having an affair. Seam Young, Lloyd Bridges and William Petersen co-star in this remake of the French romantic drama (3563368). 10.00 Nico (1988). Steven Seagal stars as a tough cop-with martial arts skills who uncovers a conspiracy involving the CIA, a drugs ring and government cora trigs ring and government cor-ruption. With Pam Grier and Sharon Stone (9944558). 11.45 Betrayed (1988). Thriller staving Debra Winger, Tom Berenger and Betsy Blair (38741691). 1.55 Julia (1977) (3502943). 3.50 A Day's Pleasure (1910) (85727021) Pleasure (1919) (86737092). 4.15-5.50am Golden Earnings

(1947) (7827905).

UK 60LD
7.00am Record Breakers
(1567078). 7.30 Blue Peter
(1579813). 8.00 Animal Magic
(4225165). 8.30 Jackanory
(2013707). 8.45 Chigley
(2001962). 9.00 Survivors
(9580813). 10.00 Dr Who
(3082417). 1.20 Fame Carry on
Girls (1973) (68122146). 3.00
The Bill Omnibus (61298287).
5.20 Going Straight (2902875).
6.00 Bullseye (8720455). 6.30
What a Carry Onl (8711707).
7.00 Dick Emery (7473610). 7.30
After the Show (8700691). 8.00
Films Madame Sousatzla (1988)
(55340349). 10.15 Boys from the
Blackstuff (91910287). 11.25 Blackstuff (91910287), 11,25 Spitting Image (5800691), 12.00 Carrott Confidential (2434585). 12.40 Film: Find the Lady (1975) (34655382). 2.05-7.00am Shopping at Night (15796276).

SALY SPORTS 1 7.00am World Sport Special (26813), 7.30 Cricket: Zimbabwe Vs England - Second Test - Live (2631981). 3.00 Football: Southampton Vs Liverpool - Live (6175078). 6.30 Baskethall: Manchester Giants Vs Derby Storm (595829). 9.00 Cricket (256813). 11.30 Football Special (244078). 2.00-4.30am Basketball (958092)

SICY SPORTS 2 7.00am Soccer Edra (2308436). 11.00 Goals on Sunday (2458726). 12.00 American Foot-ball: Wildcard Play Off (7740356). 3.30 Ice Hockey (7367726). 5.30 Trans World Sport (9173349). Trans World Sport (9173349). 6.30 Football League Review (9922165), 7.30 Angling Masters (2608875). 8.30 Football Special (8092707). 11.00 Olympics: Sprinters (2439691). 12.00-1.00am Choket: Sporting Classics - West Indies Vs England 1994 (6812740).

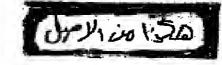
SICT SPORTS 3 12.00ncon Football League Review (43161233), 1.00 Darts: WDC World Championship - Live (42877184), 5.00 World Sport Special (41638368), 5.30 Drag Racing (83311504). 6.00 Water sports (43167417). 7.00 Darts: WDC World Championship - Live (40157233). 11.30-12.00mld

night World Sport Special (94866417). EUROSPORT

LIVE IV

7.30am Eurofun (22748). 8.00 Alpine Skiing (39813). 8.30 Alpine Skiing (74320). 9.30 Offroad (99097). 10.30 Alpine Skiing (6394829), 11:45 Alpine Sk (6394829), 11.45 Alpine Skiling (4159504), 1.00 Termis (91639), 3.00 Alpine Skiling (30455), 4.00 Ski-Jumping (79558), 5.30 Ali Sports (76252), 6.30 Olympic Games (5813), 7.00 Figure Skat-ing (72207), 9.00 Ali Sports (15146), 9.30 Olympic Games (57707), 10.00 Formula One (48504), 11, 00.12, 30.20 Ski. (46504). 11.00-12.30am Skiumping (85436).

6.00am Revelations 6.30 Looking for Love 7.00 Spanish Archer 7.30 Mind and Body 8.00 Why Files 8.30 Video Box 9.00 Psychic Pets 9.30 Fashion 10.00 Revelations 10.30 Looking for Love 11.00 Campus Capers 11.30 Spanish Archer 12.00 Revelations 12.30 Why Files 1.00 Looking for Love 1.30 Psychic Pets 2.00 Fashlon 2.30 Mind and Body 3.00 Canary Wharf Omnibus 4.30 Campus Ca pers 5.00 Revelations 5.30 Looking for Love 6.00 Fashion 6.30 Sunday Sport Live 7.00 Spanish Archer 7.30 Revelations 8.00 Psychic Pets 8.30 Why Files 9.00 Seventies Pop Show 9.30 Looking for James 10.03 Sevential September 10.03 Septembe for Love 10.03 Sunday Sport Live 10.30 Stand-Up Live Special: Jim Bowen Presents Oh Cod! 11.36 Edenquest with Sandra Taylor 12.30 Kiss TV: Kiss Lifestyle 1.30 Home Shopping 2.00 Stand-Up Live Special Mike Reld 3.00 Eden quest with Pameia Anderson 3.30-6.00am Night-Time Programmes





In my week

little crunch you're not prone to eczema, heart trouble, gives way. I beside me. "D'you want the stuff for concentrate keeping it clean?" she asks. The woman nods. George Michael is singing "Jesus to a Child" over the sound grinding my system. Lyrics like Kindness in your teeth as he eyes" don't really seem very appropriate here. earring. Then mouthwash. "You another time you eat, or drink, or smoke, and when you've been asleep," she says. "And no kissing or any other oral cootact for at least six weeks."

Ouick flash of Woman nods, puts it in her coat pocket, leaves. She hasn't said a word.

Metal Morphosis is a body with reception lady "Thing is

have two done at a time up there. There's a lot going on at that point and you might find it gets a bit heavy if you have more." She has gothicblack hair and a little hoop runs through her right costril. She looks me hard in the eye and doesn't crack a smile. I think maybe she thinks I'm going to chicken.

I look back. "That's a shame. I really wanted three," I say. Take the cliphoard and start filling in the form. It's one of those basic ones where you There is a sign away hlame in case of septicaemia and promise

fainting and half a as the dozen other medical ioconveniences. She cartilage turns away and addresses the woman

fits the the desk, produces a hottle of antiseptic have to use this every

Metal Morphosis is a body of your body, they'll stick a needle through and attach a needle through steel ring to can take it out for you." "Oh. it. Sitting in the waiting room studying their price list, I feel like a hit of a weedy girlie. There, in ever-so-factual black and white, are all the places those things you have to teach people commonly choose for yourself how to do. But he can spiking: nostril £35; septum £30; eyehrow £25; lahret £35; nipple £25, both £40; navel £25; tongue £35. Then it gets giant into a white-tiled, surgi-weirder, hits of the body I've cal-looking room filled with never heard of start popping hits of sterile-looking metal of people waiting."

genitals. Involuntarily, I cross my legs. All I want is a couple of holes in the upper bit of my left ear. What a wuss.

It's early lunchtime; a small rush starts as I wait. A couple of people precede me and emerge with no visible signs of alteration. I peek at them from the corner of my eye. They don't seem to be having difficulty walking, either. The man who does the work appears at the mouth of the passage. He's huge; he looms over the room, a block of ing last time around. Wheo I



with reception lady. "Thing is, I was hoping someone might be able to show me how to do it myself." "Well, we can't really show you. It's ooe of take it out for you if you want. You'll have to pay, though."
It's my turn. I follow the

orry," says the girl up: madison; earl; nuchae. and a doctor's couch. I start to behind the desk,
"We only let people you could get done to your transfixes me with a glare. "Calm down," he says. I had been under the impression that I was perfectly calm. It's only a couple of needles through a cartilage, for god's sake. I've had a greenstick fracture of the upper arm: I know what pain is.

He gets out his iodine pen. Draws a couple of dots where 1 want the holes. "Now," he says, "turn your face to the wall and DON'T MOVE, right?" muscle in a white coat. "Have was 13, you pretty much had to

> test to ensure that you knew what you were doing, especially when you waoted repeat holes. The man who did mine almost fainted when I asked for the fourth. It took some persuasion hack then to get anyone to do it without an anaesthetic, and you were loaded down with dire warnings ahout wearing anything other than gold for

go through a psych

says, and punches a needle through my ear. There is a little crunch as the cartilage gives way. I coocentrate on not grinding my teeth as he fits the earring. Then another crunch and a quick flash of blinding red pain behind my eyelids. The

ring seems very large as it

at least a year.

"Keep still," he

pushes its way through.
"Okay," he says, "D'you want to go and have a look?" I skip from the couch. Dance around in front of the mirror. I have six earrings in my left ear. No-one's ever going to call me a wimp again. I spit on your stud-gun. "Oh, wow," I'm going. "Thank you. Thank you. I've :yanted to have this done for ages. It's sooo cool." For a moment, he almost smiles. "Good," he says, "now can you go and look at it in the mirror outside? There's loads

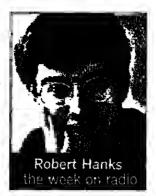
Critical cheer? Bah, humbug!

Scene: Scrooge-like critic sits hunched and snarling over computer, straining to produce a coherent thought on Christmas radio, occasionally lashing out with hobnailed boot at offspring eager to show off new fairy outfu. Spectral figure appears beside him, moaning and clanking chains.

Critic: Buzz off. Can't you see I'm trying to get in touch with my muse? Slagging off radio programmes requires conceo-

Spectral figure: Actually, that's sort of why I'm here. I thought I could persuade you to say something nice about the radio.

Critic - Nice? Nice? When the Today programme's Personality of the Year poll is won by a man notorious for apparent absence of same and one of the runners-up is a woman whose sole claim to fame is that she once speot two minutes on the Today programme slagging off homosexuals? And when this non-fact becomes the main headline oo the appallingly self-congratulatory and insular Today programme as well as the subject of lengthy analysis on PM? Nice, wheo Radio 2 can devote an hour on Christ-



mas Day to Gloria Hunniford wanderiog around Julio Iglesias's Polynesian-style Florida home saying thing like "Crikey. that's an enormous sofa" and Julio replying "Yes, it's hig enough to make love, Glo-ria"? Nice, wheo Mike Read cao introduce a sectioo from Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610 on Classic FM with the line "Here's a word from Francis Drake" followed by a duck quacking? Anyway, what were

you proposing? SF: Well, the usual sort of thing - you know, Christmas past, Christmas present. Christmas future, you see utterly indistinguishable from error of ways, happy endings

Critic: Sounds unlikely. Can commercial stations don't we skip Christmas past and just talk about Radio 2's "Vintage Christmas" season of drama from the archives? To concede a point, I think most of that's been cracking stuff - espe-cially Gielgud and Richardson doing Holmes and Watson oo Boxing Day. Mind you, I was less sure about the 30-mioute condensed version of It's a Wonderful Life on Christmas Day, with James Stewart recrearing his screen role - I'd rather just watch the film. Also, I have had as much as I can stomach of Christmas present. Can we hit the future?

He is transported through the air to o dank, untended grave in a lonely corner of o graveyant. The CASTING".

Critic: You're not telling me they're going to sell off the BBC, are you?

Spectral figure: Of course not

They're just going to attenuate its budgets and dilute its distinctive products until it's commercial stations and hecomes pointless. And the

have to bother competing any more, and they get even worse. Unless people like you defend the dear old BBC... Critic: Hmm. Well, I suppose I am rather enjoying the serialisation of The Old Cunosin Shop they're doing on week-

day mornings on Radio 4. They've tried to cut down on the sentimentality a bit, which is like trying to cut down on the tunes in Beethoven's Fifth, but Tom Courtenay is a rather excellent Quilp, the horrible dwarf who persecutes poor little Nell - it's the sense he conveys that Quilp has absolutely no conscience, and this liberates him and armours him. And it's the sort of project that only the BBC could nome on the gravestone is do, which is becoming increas-"PUBLIC SERVICE BROAD—ingly rare as it suffers more and more pressure to keep ratings up and budgets down. I could say that.

SF: That's more like it,

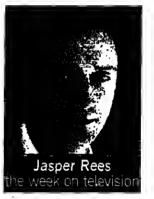
And the critic wakes up in his people would complain, bed at home, resolved to send v turkey to Tiny Tim Bannister of the BBC with a mote to the effect that this is in return for all the turkeys he's had from him. After oll, no sense letting them think he's getting soft.

And the message is: get real

ou could tell it was Christmas week from the seasonal behaviour of ITV. The people's channel takes this whole goodwill husiness so seriously that it annually throws in the towel. They alone have learned that there is as much pleasure in giving as receiving. This year's present to the opposition involved stationing Authea Turner on HMS Belfast. A clearer metaphor it would be hard to come up with. We're all at sea.

Elsewhere, while the church calendar celebrated the day God came down to earth, the ieievisioo caieodar did its dest earth. For The Works (BBC2. Fri). Mark Lawson cleverly went to Poland in search of The Secret Life of the Pope". Lawson's burning quest down the years has been to uncover the way in which writers' lives inform their work. In the case of John Paul II, he wanted to find out if the playwright pro-fessed far more radical beliefs than those preached by the illiberal pootiff. And the answer is: does Karel Wojtyla have a balcony?

Two of his Holiness's fictional colleagues celebrated the Nativity in the traditional manner, with an hourlong special. You wonder whether the spirit of generosity had encouraged The Vicar of Dibley (BBC1, Wed) and Father Ted (C4, Tues), a pair of comedies



about worldly priests with to bring the church down to too far and invite each other to their Christmas script conferences. There was an almost supernatural symmetry of humour, including the twin gags about innocent children learning to say "wank", and the postmodern references to other television shows, "Who invented Christmas?" asked Dawn Freoch's Reverend Grainger. "Noel Edmonds," opined a carol singer. It's all very well satirising Noel as seen on TV, but sitcom priests are part of the problem. The vicar of Dibley imagined a perfect Christmas evening watching Jurassic Park and Only Fools and Horses, which lo and behold umpteen million viewers had just been tucking into on the same channel. And who's that taking the luguhrious dimwit role? Roger Lloyd Pack, much

as he did an hour earlier in Only Fools ond Horses. Father Ted's quotation from the schedules was a far more sophisticated dream sequence in which he had fallen in love with Balhkissangel's Assumpta, the platonic squeeze of another TV priest. Wickedly funny. But thank God (if He's

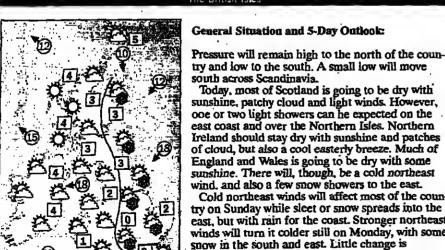
responsible) for the salutary dose of plain speaking in The Real Christmas Show (C4, Tues). Several revellers made a video of what happened in year, and came back for tanked-up post-turkey analysis with Gaby Rosin, so much better at interviewing nonentities than celebrities. A bizarre exception to the show's realistic account of festive squabbles and drudgery was the Norfolk woman whose emotional investment in Christmas was so total that she yearned to dress her husband up as Santa Claus so she could wake up with him in the same bed. Her dream and your nightmare - would be to have Christmas all the year round.

That was also Dickens's fantasy, which is why An Audieoce with Charles Dickens (BBC2, all week) was such a timely confection. The stories and passages - Nancy's murder, Scrooge's conversion etc - read by Simon Callow were the mass entertainment hefore television. All Victorians could

doing when they learned that Little Nell had died. (Reading The Old Curiosity Shop). We Elizabethans know where we were when we heard Raquel had left Curly. (Watching television.) These were basically radio shows in costume, with pride of place granted to the matted pubic drape glued to Callow's chin, but simply and delightfully done.

No one featured in The Real Christmas Show seemed to turn on the televisinn at three their households this time last o'clock, "It doesn't really interest me," said one of Her Majesty's subjects, "because it's just an old woman talkij about nothing." This year ITV produced The Queen (BBC1 and ITV. Wed), hut as with World Cup Finals and elections, viewers still turn to Auntie for thuse lapidary broadcasting moments. And if they didn't, it was prohably because they were watching Rory Bremner's Alternative Christmas Message (C4, Wcd) with the Princess of Wales and even more reflexive jokes about tele-vision. The script was far too detailed: mid-alternoon nn 25 December, when the nation is at its least intelligent, is no time for real wit. The Queen's broad hrushstrokes were easier on the ear after the stuffing most of us had given ourselves. As for most of the seasonal fare, the guest from The Real Christmas Show didn't miss much hy remember what they were emigrating to Turkey.

HURTS....and his painfully creative struggle lerber. DON'T BE So MODEST. HOW DID YOU THINK WHAT'S IT OF SUCH AN AMAZING CALLED? CONCEPT? OH IT'S



one or two light showers can he expected on the east coast and over the Northern Isles. Northern Ireland should stay dry with sunshine and patches

of cloud, but also a cool easterly breeze. Much of England and Wales is going to be dry with some sunshine. There will, though, be a cold northeast wind, and also a few snow showers to the east. Cold northeast winds will affect most of the country on Sunday while sleet or snow spreads into the east, but with rain for the coast. Stronger northeast winds will turn it colder still on Monday, with some snow in the south and east. Little change is

expected through Tuesday and Wednesday as bit-terly cold northeast winds cover most of the country. Many places are going to see some snow, but the worst is likely to be to the southeast, with the best weather in the far northwest.

6 43 3 37 5 41 5 41 1 34 1 34 2 36 Cartisle Dover Dublin Edinburgh Exeter Glasgow

Auriga, the Charioteer, is one of the conspicuous constellations well up in our skies in these winter evenings. Its brightest star, Capella, has a distinctly yellowish hue. Since Capella means "she-goat" in Latin, the little triangle of fainter stars nearby are familiarly known as "the kids". The Milky Way arches across the sky through Auriga and its adjacent constellations of Perseus and Germini. A sweep along this part of the Milky Way with even a very modest pair of hinoculars will reveal a number of star clusters. Five in particular, just on or below the threshold of naked eye visibility are worth looking for. The 18th century French comet-seeker,

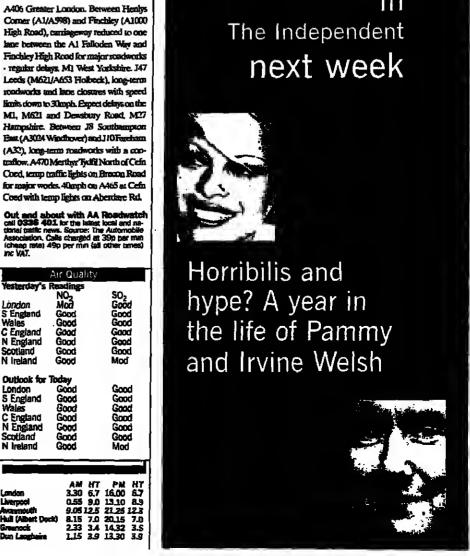


famous catalogue of bright nebulae, star clusters and galaxies. These so-called open clusters are typically several thousand light years away. Each contains several hundred stars born at the same time, between 50 and 200 million years ago. Jacqueline Mitton

WEATHER

Figure 1. Like 1. The second of the company of the control of the





The big picture White Hunter, Black Heart Sat 8.30pm C4

if Clint Eastwood the monolithic actor rarely surprises - Eastwood the director is another kettle of fish altogether. In his 1990 movie White Hunter, Black Heart, Eastwood got Inside the skin of a movie director that he obviously has a lot of understanding of and sympathy with - John Huston. This is a lightly fictionalised account of what happened when Huston (here called John Wilson) went to Africa to make The African Queen and got waylaid hunting elephants.

Television preview

Recommended viewing this weekend by Gerard Gilbert

baccy-chewing desperados after him - or some crazed psycho street punk. No, you sit him down in the midst of an audience of his Hollywood peers and you get them to say nice things about him. Clint Eastwood's Achilles beel is his embarrassment, and you've never seen someone squirm like our man in the AFI Clint Eastwood Tribute (Sat C4), part of tonight's Clint Night on Channel Four.

As far as theme nights go, Clint Night is a bit thin - consisting of the above programme (a bit cheesy. but they include all the great clips), a rather silly sounding debate about who was the greatest - Clint or John Wayne - an episode of Rawhide (which Channel 4 shows on Sunday mornings, anyway) and a couple of his movies. There doesn't seem to be any peg for it except that BBC2 is having a theme evening tonight - its excuse being the 40th anniversary of the BBC's Natural History Unit.

The Restless Year Sat 8.55pm BBC2
Women at Play Sun 7pm C4
Just Dancing Around? Sun 7.30pm C4 The Moonstone Sun 9pm BBC2 Richard Wilson Way Out West Sun 9pm BBC1

think they've found a way of getting to Clint East-wood. You don't send a posse of horse-riding, using time-lapse photography. My personal highlight Richard Wilsoo a series to make further films in the using time-lapse photography. My personal highlight was the sight of a marrow growing at this exaggerated speed, but on the whole the result is strangely dull. I think we're all too used to this time-lapse

> Also a bit of a disappointment is the BBC's canny combining of costume and detective dramas in a twopart adaptation of Wilkie Collins's The Moonstone (Sun BBC2). Maybe the problem is with Collins's source book, which I haven't read but of which I have heard many excellent things. On this evidence, the dramatisation is very much sub-Conan Doyle.

The moonstone of the title is a large diamond stolen by a British army officer from a Hindu temple. The priests of this sacred building are very keen to get it back - and indeed turn up disguised as travelling jugglers on said army officer's descendents' Yorkshire doorstep with that very intention. But did they steal it from heiress Keeley Hawes's dressing-The centrepiece of this affair is a programme called table drawer? Enter Antony Sher hamming it up The Restless Year (Sat BBC2), in which the four rotten as the detective on the case. They ought to give

likeness of Way Out West (Sun BBC1), in which the star of One Foot in the Grave is sent along to a working cattle ranch in Wyoming, USA to see if they can't make a cowboy out of him. They can't.

Women at Play (Sun C4) exchanges its usual Thursday night slot for a Sunday one and takes a look at the womeo involved in the casino gaming business as punters and as croupiers - and then further up the hierachy. Apparently, more and more women are taking to gambling at roulette and blackjack - attracted by the tightly regulated (and therefore unthreatening) world offered by casinos.

Just Dancing Around? (Sun C4), Channel 4's short series in which film-makers spy on the creative processes of a leading international choreographer, has director Mark James oo former avant-garde "doyenne" (ie she's over 60) Trisha Brown. James's film finds Brown embarking on 8 new piece entitled MO, a typically fluid and inventive creation set to Bach's Musical Offering.



The big match

Southampton v Liverpool Sun 3pm, Sky Sports 1

I'm not entirely convinced by Liverpool yet - they need a truly world-class striker in Stan Collymore's position for starters - but they have come a long, long way from the traumatic days when Graeme Souness tried major surgery on that hallowed institution, the Annield boot room. Souness at the Dell is another matter - someone of his ilk was needed in the manager's dugout. They also need Matthew Le Tissier - at least if the Saints' recent poor run without their striker is anything to go by.

Saturday television and radio

BBC₁

7.05 The Pink Panther (R) (1829393). 7.25 News and

7.30 Children's BBC: Iznogoud. 7.40 Speed Racer. *
8.05 The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest. * 8.30
The New Adventures of Superman. * 9.15 Almost Live, Definitely Kicking 10.50 Dannii Minogue's Circus of the World (S)

(5947664). 11.40 The World's Strongest Man (SI (2863515). * 12.12 Weather (9822747).

12.15 Grandstand. 12.20 Football Focus. 1.00 News. 1.05 Racing from Newbury. 1.25 Athletics: Coverage Of The County Durham International Coverage Of the County Domain International Cross-Country. 1.40 Racing from Newbury. 1.55 Athletics. 2.15 Racing from Newbury. 2.30 Women's Skiing. Slatom highlights from Semmering, Austria. 2.40 Racing from Newbury. 3.00 Women's Skiing. 3.15 Motor Sport: Review of the British Touring Car Championship. 3.55 Football Half-times. 4.00 Athletics 4.40 Final Sect. (\$1.46539190)

Score (S) (45539190).
5.20 News and Sport (6656935). * 5.30 Regional News and Weather (258867). 5.35 Tom and Jerry

5.45 The Simpsons. Marge auditions for a part in an

amateur dramatics musical. Bliss (S) (967480). *
6.10 Gotcha Hall of Fame. Noel Edmonds plays practical jokes on Ulrika Jonsson, Wayne Sleep, Judith Chalmers and various other minor celebrities. Have a nap or something (330799).
7.00 Learny Henry Gets Wild. Learny Henry does some comedy routines and meets Boyzone in Dublin and

racing driver Nigel Mansell in Exeter (S) (516577).
7.50 The National Lottery Live. Cuddly Dale Winton returns as host, joined by pop group Right Said Fred, Remember them? (S) (232747). * 8.05 Casualty. A sex offender's release from prison stirs

up a community, while Gloria makes a shocking discovery about Richard (S) (285916). * 8.55 News and Sport (Followed by Weather) (983916).
9.14 National Lottery Update (868867).
9.15 INSEE Death Train (Oavid S Jackson 1993 UK/Cro).

Anglo-Croatian co-production, which means that all the extras were very, very cheap, and starring a pre-Bond Pierce Brosnan as a mercenary hired by a Russian general to transport a nuclear device across Europe and deliver it to Saddam Hussein Christopher Lee and Baywatch's Alexandra Paul

10.50 Match of the Day. Newcastle United v Tottenham Hotspur is the main event (S) (7274428). *
12.05 They Think It's All Over. As shown over Christmas

(R) (S) (2806523). 1

12.35 Top of the Pops. Review of 1996 repeated from Christmas Day (R) (S) (5662287). * 1.40 Fish The Incress File (Sidney J Furie 1965 UK). Modishly flashy but still enjoyable spy shenanigans with Michael Caine reprising his Harry Palmer role, ably supported by droll Gordon Jackson and Nigel Green in his hunt for a missing scientist (348417). 3.25 Weather (41821962). To 3.30am.

BBC2

6.55 In Search of Genghis Khan (5081393). 7.45 2056 Song of Norway (Andrew L Stone 1970 U5). Insipidity pretty biopic of the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg, throwing together Toraly Maurstad, Harry Secombe, Robert Moriey, Edward G

Robinson on one film set (18924799). 10.05 PT To Be or Not to Be (Ernst Lubitsch 1942 US). A group of Polish actors, led by Jack Benny

us). A group of Poish actors, led by Jack Benry and Carole Lombard (in her last movie – she was killed in a plane crash two weeks after completion), outwit the Nazis in this agreeable wartime propaganda comedy (49173916).
11.40 The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures. Five new lectures, and the theme this year is fossils and evolution. In the first fecture, Professor Simon
Converse Morris tales the audience through a billion

evolution. In the first recture, Professor Simon Conway Morns takes the audience through a billion years of geological history (S) (3935157).*

12.40 Star Trek: 30 Years and Beyond. Coverage of a special gala held in September, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the popular sci-fi series and movie spin-offs (R) (9610374). *

1.30 Star Ben-Hur (William Wyler 1959 U5). You might have seen Gore Vidal the other month, claiming that he injected brong-entiticizin into the

claiming that he injected homo-eroticism into the scenes between Chariton Heston and his boyhood friend Stephen Boyd. Vidal was one of the many screenwriters who worked on this mammoth MGM

screenwriers who worked on this mammon Michaelm Capture galley scenes and the chariot race (2753225). *
4.55 TOTP2 (S) (1578515).
5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook (S) (698848).
6.10 Natural History Night. David Attenborough Introduces an evening of wildlife programmes to mark the 40th anniversary of the Natural History Unit at the BBC, See Preview (133119). *
6.15 Namily, Streene Creatures of the Stealefore Coast

6.15 Namib: Strange Creatures of the Skeleton Coast. From The World about Us in 1976, a look at the wildlife of the harsh but strikingly beautiful Namib Desert in Africa (R) (894119). * 7.15 Malice in Wonderland. Life on a Red Sea coral reef. Deadly for some (R) (494916).

7.50 Kingdom of the Ice Bear (828913). *
8.55 The Restless Year. See Preview (S) (440916). *
9.50 On the Tracks of the Wild Otter. From the 1982 series of The Natural World, Hugh Miles's film follows the lives of otters living on the storm-

washed islands of Shetland (R) (133683). *

10.20 Attenborough in Paradise. New Guines is the paradise in question (R) (9410596). *

11.30 The Most Popular BBC Wildlife Programme. Viewers get to vote on the "best BBC wildlife programme of all time". Go on, then, name three

BBC wildlife programmes (13480). 12.00 Cat People (Jacques Tourneur 1942 US). Imaginative and atmospheric low-budget honor movie, scanng by suggestion, Simone Simon plays the beautiful Yugoslav girl who turns into a cat when her emotions are aroused. Tom Conway is the shrink who thinks she's fantasising (1827900). 1,10 Weather (9024962). To 1.15am.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV (7469225). 9.25 Cartoon Time (R)

9.35 IDES Daffy Duck's Fantastic Island (Friz Freleng 1983 US). Feature-length cartoon (3334867). 10.50 IDES Bedlorobs and Broomsticks (Robert Stevenson 1971 US). So-so Disney live action and animation mix, with witch Angela Lansbury, boyfriend David Tomlinson thwarting Nazis in wartime London (85751616). *

1.00 News (82700190). 1,05 Local News (82700190).

1.10 Hard The Biorde Showdown (Alan Levi 1989 US).

Bionic Man Lee Majors joins forces with the one and only Blonic Woman Lindsay Wagner to track and only Blonic Woman Lindsay Wagner to track down some spies endangering world peace. A young Sandra Bullock pays her dues (60483393).

2.45 Beel Arthur II: On the Rocks (Bud Yorkin 1988 US). Disappointing sequel with Dudley Moore's cuddly playboy going broke as his wife Liza Minnelfi wants to adopt a child. John Gielgud appears as a ghost, but this is essentially two duds for the price one (\$1,019374).

for the price one (S) (719374). *

4.45 News and Results (Then Weather) (8325664). *
5.05 London Tonight and Sport (Followed by Weather) (8419138).

5.20 Cartoon Time (6641003). 5.30 Sabrina the Teerage Witch (138). * 6.00 Gladiators (S) (61428). * 7.00 Slind Date (S) (9157). *

8,00 The Joe Pasquate Show. The comic, whose mily trick seems to be that he talks in a squeaky voice,

gets his own show - alded and abetted by guests Sacha Distel, Eric Syles, Gloria Hunniford and boy band OTT. It's that old-fashioned, down-home variety show, folks (S) (204041). *
8.50 News (Followed by Weather) (988461), *
9.04 Local Weather (857751).
9.05 ISBN The War of the Roses (Danny DeVito 1989

US). Bracingly black domestic cornedy starting Michael Douglas as a smug Washington lawyer who has nauseated his wife (Kathleen Turner) to

the point of divorce. Danny DeVito is the lawyer supervising the feroclous battle over their possessions (S) (19170645). * 11.10 The Woman in Red (Gene Wilder 1984 US). Happily married Gene Wilder gets an eyeful of Kelly LeBrock and won't rest until he has her underneath the duvet, Inexplicably successful romantic comedy co-starring Gilda Radner and Charles

Grodin (963515). 12.45 Funny Business (S) (3700981). 1.20 Portrait of a Hit Man (Allan Buckhantz 1977 US). Assassin Jack Palance is hired by moost Rod Steiger - only to find that his target is an old

friend who once saved his life (550165). 3.50 Helter Skefter (1384959). 4.40 Great Expectations (Jean Tych 1983 US).
Animated version of the Dickens novel (9269368).

Channel 4

7.00 The Magic School Bus (R) (S) (67799). 7.30 Really Wild Animats (1773480). 7.55 Hong Kong Phoney (R) (4765848). 8.05 King Arthur and the Knights of Justice (R)

8.35 Hang Time (S) (6507480).
9.00 The Morning Line (S) (9474238).
9.50 Cycling: The 1996 World Track Championships.
From the Manchester Velodrome. Britain's Chris
Boardman takes part (9086585).

10,50 Billz! (S) (6356751). 11,50 Rawhide (1734913). 12.50 Phantom of the Opera (Rupert Julian 1925 US). Rarely seen silent adaptation of Gaston

Leroux's classic story about a mysterious masked figure who haunts the sewers beneath the Paris Opera House. Starring Lon Chaney, Mary Philibin and Norman Kerry (S) (68702312).

2.35 DEE Journey to the Centre of the Earth (Henry Levin 1959 US). Pat Boone and James Mason lead the way through the earth's crust in this solid and entertaining version of the Jules Verne tale

(29543428). *
5.00 Brookside Omnibus (S) (79672119). *
6.35 News and Weather (183374).
6.40 Clint Night: Introduction. An evening of

programmes dedicated to Clint Eastwood. See Preview, above (465480). 6.41 The Greatest: Clint Eastwood. Who is king of the western - Clint Eastwood or John Wayne? This

light-hearted showdown intends to compare the legendary actors, asking whether Eastwood's "Man with No Name" or The Duke's confident gunslinger made the ultimate screen cowboy (S) (41 1409). 7.10 AFI Clint Eastwood Tribute. See Preview, above (S) (7217480). * 8.30 SIMM White Hunter, Black Heart (Clint Eastwood 1990 US). See the Big Picture (S) (97070409). *

10.35 First Hang 'Em High (Ted Post 1967 US).
Hollywood's first attempt to emulate the speghetti western has our man Clint as a convicted

gunslinger, setting out to gain a bloodthirsty revenge on the nine-man mob who tynched and left him for dead (50242886). * 12.40 Rawhide (4066504). * 1.40 Side Street (Anthony Mann 1950 US).

Rather grim tale of poor clerk Farley Granger committing a petty crime in an effort to make ends meet, and then finding the snowballing consequences beginning to take over his life, Cathy rs (2881078 3.10 Disa Johnny Eager (Mervyn LeRoy 1941 US).

Underworld melodrama with one or two original twists as rich girl Lana Turner falls for paroled mobster Robert Taylor, Van Heftin won the acting honours as Taylor's perpetually drunk "chum" (there are homosexual overtones) (611981). 5.05 Mr Don and Mr George (1187078). To 5.35am.

ITV/Regions

ARELIA

As London except: 1.04pm Anglia Air Watch
(82700190): 1.10 Film: Murder in Three Acts
(60483393): 5.04 Anglia Air Watch
(667051S): S.OS Anglia News and Sport
(8419138): 12.45am Film: The World is Full
of Married Man (101252): 2.25am Carnal
Knowledge (8232320): 3.25am Film: Eleni
(609146): 5.25-5.55am Hell and High Water: the Making of Cutthroat Island (1177691).

CHANNEL 3 NORTH EAST/YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.10pm Film: Murder in Timea.
Acts (60483393). S.10 Chennel 3 North
East: Full Time (57/3138). Yorks: Scoreline
(57/3138). 9.04 Yorks: Local Weather
(857751). 11.10 The Making of Moll Flanders
(615770). 11.40 Laffs at the Baths (228428). 1015/70J. 11.49 Lams at the baths (226426).
12.10am Film: The Woman in Red (505225).
1.45am Funny Business (58788). 2.15am Film:
Jack of the Businesid (942558). 4.10am Pushing the Limits: The Making of Eraser (47951900).
4.40-5.55am Film: Melody Time (9269368).

As London except: 1.10pm Film: Murder in Three Acts (60483393), 5.05 Central News (6679886), 5.10-5.20pm The Central Match – Goals Extra (5713138).

As London except: 1.10pm Film: Murder in Three Acts (60483393), 5.05 HTV News and Sport (8419138). 12.45am Film: The World is Full of Married Men (101252). 2.25am Carterior Car nai Knowledge (8232320). 3.25am Film: Eleni (609146). 5.25-5.55am Making of Cut-throat Island (1177691).

AS London except: 1.10pm Film: Ernest Saves Christmas (50483393), 12.45am Film: The World is full of Martied Men (101252), 2.25am Film: 42232301 3.25am Film: Carnal Knowledge (8232320), 3.25am Film: Eleni (609146), 5.25-5.55am Making of Cut-

throat Island (1177691).

MES (COUNTRY
As London except: 1.10pm Film: Murder in Three
Acts (60483393). 12.45am Film: The World
is Fultor Marded Men (101252). 2,25am Carnal. Knowledge (8232320). 3,25am Film:
Eleni (609146). 5,25-5,55am Making of Cutthroat Island (1177691).

As C4 except: 6.05am Early Morning: All-Terrain Magnition Christmas Special (4715428), 7.00 The Magic School Bus (67799), 7.55 Hong Kong Phoosy (4765848), 8.05 King Arthur and the Krights of Justice (7947206), 11.50 Horne to Roost (1995200), 12.55 February Magnition (1995200), 13.55 1.25 - Happy Prince (2954436), 2.00 Faust (2741480), 5.20 Brookside (55470480), 7.00 News (980374), 7.15 Noson Lawer (3458799). Resistant A. J. 113 Nooli Laver (3436737). 8.20 Gedaef Gerthewin (571225). 9.05 Lon Goed (279799). 9.35 Clint Night. The Greatest: Clint Eastwood (864041). 10.05 AFI Life Achievement Award (1027157). 11.25-1.30am Film: White Hunter, Black Heart (15950041).

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10 4 miles #

2-3**00**

harthdays .

Radio

Radio 1

7.00am Kevin Greening 10.00 Dave Pearce 1.00 Jo Writey 4.00 John Peel, Festive 50 - Part 3 7.00 Canny Ramping, Lovegroove Dance Party 9,00 Rap Show 12,00 Raggie Dancetail Nate 2,00 Essen-tul Ma. Rhythm Masters 4,00-Radio 2

46 10.100 No 6.00em Mo Dutte 8.05 Roam Matthew 10.00 Steve Whight 1.00 Arthur Smith's American Bits 1.30 Smith and Jones Sound Off 2,00 Judy Spiers 4.00 Nick Barractough \$.00 Improved Gartinical Store 5.00 fantar and cammar story 6.00 Hard Stream in Cameri 7,00 Harl a Cammice 9,30 David Jacobs 10,00 Arts 12,05 Charles Nove 4.00-5.00am Mo Dutta

Radio 3

1. C. Metrith
1. Search News Headines, Weather
1.00 Record Review
1.00 Sudding a Library, David Nice
of Ingress available recordings of
Michige's Symptomy Na 7.
10.15 Record Release Villa-Lobus
(generals Brasilems No 4)

Persona Danzes Alto Cubanos Persola Banduneon Concerto 11,15 Reissues, Stephen Plaistow insterns to plant recordings which have recently made it on to CD for the first time. 12.00 Private Plessons, Housewile

superstar Dame Edna Everage takes about her musical passizes. See Choice, above 1.15 News, Virilage Years, Paganav Capror No 13 at B flat, Sarasate, Zapajesdo Mozar: Divertments in E flat, N563, Schubert-Puno Trie in B flat, DR98, Brahms, Plane Trie

No 1 in B, Op 8. Gluck.

3.15 The Finishing Touch A post-graduate student at the Royal Academy of Music, plays Beethoven's Schala in Elminor, Op 90, to planist James Gibb. 4.00 Bach Harpsichard Concertes. Bach, Concerto in C minor for Two Harpsichords, BWV1063; Concerto in Dininar for Three Harpsichords, BWV1063; Con-

certo in C for Two Harpsichords. BWV 1061 5.00 Jazz Record Requests. 5.45 The Gonzaga Court. 6.30 Live from the Met: Hansel and Grete! The evergreen favry lale opera by Engelbert Humperdinck, live from New York Sung in English

is devoted to the impeccable musical tastes of Dame Edna "Golden Years" looks over the

8.55 John Updine, Neads his own short story, New York Girl. 9.30 Pano Circus, Playing on full-size grand pianos, the six mem-bers of Piano Circus perform music commissioned from six contemporary composers: Julia Wolfe, Juliet Palmer, John Met-calt, Line Gardner, David Lang and Graham Fithin, Introduced

11.05 New York Calarter, Robert Cushman reviews the 7th Armula Convention, hard at Town Hall, Manhattan, and picks the Dest from among the hundreds of songs and performers.

1.00 Through the Night.

6.00-7.00am Sequence.

6.00am News. 6.10 Farming Today 6.50 Prayer for the Day. 7.00 Today: Presented by Ben Googhan and Sue MacGregor.

9.00 (FM) News. 9.05 (FM) Sport on 4. 9.30 (FM) Breakaway

age, a man spends the equiva-lent of 139 days of his life

of ingringings from the series. 12.00 (FM) Grand Tour. Tangers. Writer Paul Bowles talks about the city which he has called home since the 1940s. 12.25 (FM) News Quiz of the Year. Simon Hoggart looks back over the best moments from the com-

Choice

Sexual ambiguity abounds: a specially extended edition of Private Passions (12noon R3) Everage (left); and the Kaleido-scope Feature (7.20pm R4), career of David Bowie, about to celebrate his his 50th birthday.

where all the residents are fish-

ing-mad, and thes his hand angling for sea trout with the local

policeman. 2.30 Saturday Playhouse: The Nut-

So sampley regroups. The Notrolas Cracker Christmas, in Nicholas McInerry's festive drama, young Muscowte Natalus is unable to attend the Christmas ballet at the Bolshoi. But with the help of her grandfather, she discovers

by John Metcall. 11.05 New York Cabarel. Robert

Radio 4 受特殊的 医液化素

9.00 (LW) Test Match Special, Live coverage from Harare of day three of the Second Test, with Peter Bayter, Henry Biofeld and

10.00 (FM) Loose Ends. With Ned

11.00 (FM) Close Shaves. On aversharing. A fromountus sook at this age old must, from the com-picte fread share to beards. 11.30 (FM) From Our Own Corre-

Gonet. 4.00 Making History. 4.30 Ad Lib. 5.00 Gamson Keillor's Radio

6.25 Year Ending. .

spondent Special. A compilation

that the Nuttracker Suite can be brought into her own home... coursesy of some Christmas dec-orations and a bit of imagination. With Bernard Hepton and Stella

> S.40 An Elf at Christmas, American humorist David Sedaris reads extracts from his diary. 5.55 Shipping Forecast. 6.00 Six C'Clock News.

> > Parkets reports from Paris on whether the cafe tradition has a chance of surviving into the next century (1/5). 7.20 Kaleidoscope Feature. As David Bowie prepares to cele-brate his 50th birthday, Kaleidoscape profiles the musical chameleon. See Choice, above. 7.50 On These Days. 8.50 Saturday Night Theatre: Paupers and Pig Killers. A dramatisation of the dary of Someset

parson William Holland, (3/3).

9.35 Classics with Kay. 9.50 Ten to Ten. Tony Benn talks to Richard Coles about his faith.

10.00 News. 10.15 Newgote Calendar, By Christopher Denys, The story of

the impressionable young girl who poisoned her father out of love for notorlous gold-digger, Captain Cranstoun.

11.15 Kiri. Dame Kiri Te Kanawa tells June Knox-Mawer about the

12.55 Weather. through Wales in the company his Uncle Mort. With Stephen 1,00 News. 1,10 (FM) Our Next Question 1.10 (LW) Test Match Special. Fur-

12.00 News.
12.30 The Late Story: The Grit of the Mags. By O Harry.
12.48 Shipping Foreast.
1.00-6.00am As World Service. the coverage from Harare.

1.55 Shipping Forecast.

2.00 (LW) Test Match Special.

2.00 (FM) Fishing Hotel James

Naughte checks into the

Lochmaddy Hotel on North Usit,

where all the residents are fish-

Radio 5

Kadio 2
6.05am Orty Tackie 6.30 Breakfast 9.05 Kershaw and Whittaker
11.05 Top Gear 11.35 The Game's
Up 12.05 Baker and Kelly Upfront
1.05 Sport 6.06 Sw.O.Sw. 8.05
The Treatment 9.05 Dallyn UK
10.35 Word Up! 11.00 Night Extra
11.35 Tales of the Turf 12.05
Night Talk 2.00 Up All Night 5.056.00am Sootlight 96

Gown of 1996 12:00 Garbering, Forum Christmas Special 1.00 Alan Mann's Junior Pacient (Lunch 4:00 Nick Bailey 7:00 Russian Revela-tion 8:00 Evening Concert 10:00 Quentin Howard's Six of the Best Christmas Special 12:00 Andre Leon 4.00 The Travel Guide 1997 Holiday Preview 5.00-6.00am Michael Fanstone

2.00-6.00am Howard Pearce

Satellite

5.55 News (1175981). To 6.00am.

7.25 Dynamo Duck (6021428), 7.30 Delly and His Friends (99312), 8.00 Orson and Ofevia (73799), 8.30 Free Willy (65770), 9.00 The Best of Selly Jessy Raphael (78916), 10.00 Designing Women (62770), 10.30 Murphy Brown (52206), 11.00 Parker Lewis Can't Lose (94206), 11.30 Real TV (95935), 12.00 WWF (83664), 1.00 The Lewis (924212), 200 Histories adventages of fame and the hon-our of working with Leonard Bernstein on the definitive recording of West Side Story.

11.45 Uncle Mort's Celtic Fringe.
By Peter Tinniswood. Carter
Brandon continues his journey

6.00am Spotlight 96

Classic FM (IDEG-IQESMERIG 6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 Countdown of 1996 12.00 Gardening

Virgin Radio 1215 1197-12016b MW NS 840 FM 6.00am Janey Lee Grace 10.00 Jeremy Clark 2,00 Mark Forrest 6.00 Lynn Passons 10.00 Richard Porter

World Service Lobam Newsdesk 1.30 Quote... Linquote 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Peo-cle & Politics 3.00 News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Music Re-view 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Short Story 4.45 On the Move 5.00 Newsday 5.30-6.00mm in Praise of God

7.00am My Little Pony (8731003). 7.25 Dynamo Duck (6021428). 7.30 (95935), 12.00 WWF (83664), 1.00 The Hit Mit (92312), 2.00 Hercules (70799), 3.00 The Lazarus Man (99751), 4.00 WWF (18865), 5.00 Pacific Blue (4138), 6.00 America's Dumbest Criminals (1157), 6.30 Just (6ding (2409), 7.00 Hercules (20119), 8.00 Coppers (39867), 9.00 Cops (19003), 11.00 Unsolved Mysteries (12190), 11.00 The Ettraordinary (95225), 12.00 The Movie Show (84900), 12.30 The Fifth Corner (75338), 1.30 The Edge (60558), 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix (29233).

7.00pm Earth 2 (1928954); 8.00 JAG (1904374); 9.00 VR5 (1924138). I 0.00 Tales from the Crypt (7700022). 10.30 Tales from the Crypt (7719770). 11.00 Hit Mix (1342848); 12.00 Film:

Seven Days in May (1964) (2671894). 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix (8758558).

Print Penther (1993) (2825/5), 3.50 Live and Let Die (1973) (53646/138). 8.00 The NeweEnding Story III: Return to Fantasia (1994) (25206). 8.00 Her-cules and the Lost Kingdom (1994) (2875/1), 10.00 The Puppet Masters (1995 (53004/1), 11.50 Prelude in Love (1995) (57/1577), 1.20 Natural Causes (1994) (705/1857). 2.50 Ed McPairics 87th Precinct. Liettmine McBain's 87th Precinct, Lightning (1995) (8367165), 4-15-5-50em Kid Galatrad (1962) (81542).

6.00am TriTin: The Lake of Sharks (1972) (4403799), 7.25 Breakout (1984) (1667225), 6.30 Treasure Is-land (TVM 1974) (57022), 10.00 Anend (1VM 1974) (57/22). 10.00 Another Midnight Run (1994) (74885). 11.30 Moonraker (1979) (64637747). 1.35 A View to a Kill (1985) (13424886). 4.00 Spring Fling! (1995) (68768138). 5.50 Licence to Kill (1989) (27069596). 8.00 Muriel's Wedding (1994) (26393), 10,00 The Last Seduction (1994) (538683). 11.50 Full Eclipse (1993) (107157). 1.30 Digital Man (1994) (429981). 3.05 Freded (1993) (8597639). 4.35-5.50am TinTin: The Lake of

SKY WOMES GOLD 4.00pm The Lost Confinent (1968) (8260312), 6.00 The Buddy System (1984) (3657751), 8.00 Spyrmakes (1984) (3657/51), 8.00 spyramer The Scott Life of lan Flaming (1990) (3669596), 10.00 Bediejuce (1988) (823/041), 11.40 Birdy (1984) (2748848), 1.40 Love with the Poper Stranger (1963) (4528271), 3.25-4.55am Rancho Notorious (1952) (7046895)

SIC SPORTS 2 7,00mm Racing News (23393), 7,30 Oriclet: Zmbabwe Vs England - Live (1250190), 3,30 Sports Saturday (23157), 5,30 NHL: Power Week (23157). 3.30 NALL Power Sheffield (28664). 6.30 Ice Hookey. Sheffield Staders Vs Nottingham Partities — Live (697751). 9,00 Cricket (554732). 12.00 Rugby Union Update (23900) 2.00-4.30am los Hockey (470725)

Sky SPORTS 2
7,00am Soccer AM (2404654). 11.00
Hold the Back Page (2554954). 12.00
Sports Saturday (8232080). 2.00 Rugby Urion: Harlequins Vs Leinester — Live
(6094596). 4.30 High S (3120935).
S,00 Squash (1210799). 6.00 World
Sport Special (3141428). 6.30 Futbol
Mundial (3125480). 7,00 Skiff Salling
(1211428). 7,30 Rugby (9282041).
9,30 Surling (4193683). 10,30 High 5
(1742596). 11.00 Dacts (2555799).
11.30-1.00am Football: World Cup
Classics (3706206).

Classics (3706206). SIXY SPORTS 3 12.00moon Sidff Saffing (17650026). 12.30 High S (43288954), 1.00 World Motor Sport (42973312). 5.00 NFL American Football – Live (40273225), 9.30 Rebel Sports (43268190), 10.00 Squash (41654119), 11.00-12.00midnight arsports World (60259885).

6.00em Revelations 6.30 Looking for Love 7.00 Spanish Archer 7.30 Mind and Body 8.00 The Why Ries 8.30 and Body 8.00 The Why Files 8.30
Video Box 9.00 Psychic Pets 9.30
Fashion 10.00 Revelations 10.30
Locking for Love 11.00 Mind and Body
11.30 Spanish Archer 12.00 Campus
Capers 12.30 The Why Files 1.00
Locking for Love 1.30 Psychic Pets
2.00 Fashion 2.30 Mind and Body
3.00 Video Box 3.30 Pin Money 4.00
Saturday Sport 4.30 Saturday Sport
5.30 Severaties Pop Show 6.00 Pashion
6.30 Psychic Pets 7.00 Spanish Archer
7.30 Revelations 8.00 Bushido 8.30
Bushido 9.00 The Why Files 9.30
Locking for Love I 0.03 Saturday Sport
10.30 Stand-Up Live Special: Mile
Reid 11.30 Edenquest with Pamela Anderson 12.30 Kiss TV: Kiss Lifestyle
1.30 Home Shopping 2.00 Stand-Up
Live Special: Freddie Starr 3.006.00am Night-Time Programmes

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PRICES VALID 5th JANUARY-27th HURGARY 1907

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Shadis (1972) (44087252).



gazette/obituaries

Keuris was a big man in all sens-

es: over six foot tall, with a crop of long hair, and a lived-in

face; and he was big enough in his art to choose a path which he believed in, regardless of cur-

Like many composers in the late 20th century, he was open to all the possibilities of the cen-

tury, and took advantage only of those which belped him write

what he had to. His individual

mixture of tonal and atonal ma-

terial created a particular for-ward thrust in his music

harmonic tension was always

present, and this, combined with

a strong rhythmic impetus, kept not only the audience but also the players constantly involved.

as a teenager studied music in

his home town of Amersfoort

with Jan van Vlijmen. In 1963

he entered the Conservatoire in

Utrecht, where his composition

teacher was Ton de Leeuw, and he graduated with the

ter graduation, refining a mu-sical language where tonality was important, although his

training from both van Vlijmen and de Leeuw had been in the

then prevalent serial tradition.

Keuris always had his doubts about this: "It's not that I'm against atonality," he said once, "but I don't know how to build

So it is not surprising that his

first important piece, the Sin-fonia of 1972-74, was a pro-foundly tonal work. It can the Matthijs Vermuelen maze in 1975, and established keuris's

name on the international

scene. Its example inspired many composers in the Nether-lands, as did Keuris hanself.

with his continuing commit-ment to teaching: after his first

arge-scale pieces with it."

He stayed on as a teacher af-

Composition Prize in 1969.

Keuris was born in 1946, and

rent fashion or dogma.

Tristan Keuris

John Lewis

The Lewis combined distinct and original gifts as a typogra-pher and as a converter and sailor of small boats, and en-joyed a long life in which he was able to run both careers together in singularly happy combination.

He was Welsh on both sides of the family, born at Rhoose on the west side of Cardiff overlooking the Bristol Chan-nel in 1912. His father was a bank manager who would rather have been a doctor; very soon he became a soldier. Surviving the First World War, he was in his element at Farnham, in Surrey, where the family moved in 1920. From there his son went to Charterhouse where in the "Studio", like Osbert Lancaster before him, he acquired a taste and considerable aptitude for drawing.

His father wanted him to be a doctor, so he obediently went to Bart's. This was not a success, and he moved to Deptford to study art at Goldsmiths' under Rowland Hilder, who also awoke his passion for ships and the sea; among his fellow-

students was Denton Welch. In 1935 he set up as a freelance illustrator, and was doing fairly well when war broke out. This he spent in camouflage, a neglected art between the wars that had to be revived. It took him to Canada (posted to the far north, he pointed out that ten fect of snow was no training ground for Enrope and

transferred to the greens and hrowns of British Columbia) and Italy, where he spent a brief but enjoyable time on "secret devices". It also brought him in contact with like-minded friends: Victor Stiebel, Oliver Messel, Gabriel White and his hrother-in-law Ted Ardizzone, Freddy Mayor of the Mayor Gallery, Basil Spence, Blair Hughes-Stanton and Lynton

lt was Larry Lamh, most

gentle but also perceptive of men, who gave Lewis's post-war career its direction. As they were pondering the future, he said to Lewis: "As you have illustrated books and collected books all your life, why don't von design them - it means knowing about typography, about printing and book-binding. If you could manage it, the best thing would be to go and work with a printer and a bookbinder." James Gardner, also in camouflage, who had made Puffin Books a household word, provided the necessary intro-duction to W.S. Cowell Ltd of Inswich. Geoffrey Smith, a good and generous man, full of enthusiasm, was anxious to move the firm into printing more substantial books than Puffins. For Lewis, this meant learning on the joh. Together, he and Cowell's taught each other.

The first product was A Handbook of Printing Types (1947), at once a manual and a showcase



the technique, still new for books, of photo-lithography. It had a striking jacket showing the title as printer's type in a composing stick resting (or so in seemed) on Speed's map of Suffolk. Armed with this, Lewis enlarged his portfolio, making friends with Barnett Freedman and Henry Moore. "Plastocowell", a new process that encouraged artists to work on film that

The great advantage of Ipswich was its proximity to navigable waters, and, after settling with his wife Griselda at Manningtree, Lewis lost no time in acquiring and converting his first serious boat, a 26-foot former lifeboat. He became something of an expert on conversion and published two books on it, with his friend and fellow-sailor Adlard Coles, More of his professional time was spent in London, with Cowell's a reliable ground-bass to an increasingly vide range of activities. From 1951 to 1963 he taught

could be directly transferred to lithographic film, resulted in commissions to Braque, Ma-

tisse and others. Lewis went to

Golfe Juan in the South of

France to persuade Picasso to join in, a wholly happy experience that he never forgot. It also

brought work designing print and even opera productions for the

newly established Aldeburgh

at the Royal College of Art under Robin Darwin. His students all benefited from his warmth and encouragement, not merely an anthology. The and with one in particular, section on sailmakers' needle-

David Gentleman, it led to a long-lasting and fruitful associ-ation. He also founded the College's Lion and Unicorn Press, producing some 25 hand-

some and original publications, in part designed and all pro-duced by the students. In many ways his most original and permanently influential publication was Printed Ephemera (1962). This arose from the chance acquisition from an Ipswich bookseller of a huge hlank-book in which a large number of single sheets, including a 15th-century Indulgence and the rare 1757 specimen of the famous Birmingham printer John Basker-ville, had been pasted by a commissioner of work by oth-er artists, he left a definite former owner. The quest for the origin of these and the many other pieces led Lewis to ponder on their sources, on what made them different from more substantial printed matter. This led him to pursue and collect John Lewis, typographer, illusthese then unconsidered trifles with a zeal and method that made Printed Ephemera, when it came out, a pioneering study,

packets (a natural product of his nautical interests) was a model of its kind.

John Lewis continued lively and productive, and his autowas only published (by Unicorn Press) in 1994. Not tall, but strongly huilt, with a ruddy complexion and a fine mane of hair, latterly white, he was a warm-hearted and sympathetic friend to all who came his way. He found it easy to talk to any one in his melodious voice, with a touch of his Welsh forebears' lilt, and was the best of company on any occasion. Both as a creative designer and the commissioner of work by othmark on the graphic scene in his time which will not grow stale, its vitality a tribute and memo-

Nicolas Barker

trator, boat designer and sailor: born Rhoose, Glamorgan 11 December 1912; married 1940 Griselda Rideout, died Woodnot merely an anthology. The bridge, Suffolk 22 December section on sailmakers' needle-

stint at Utrecht, he taught at the The Dutch composer Tristan Hilversum Conservatory, the Sweelinck Conservatory in Amsterdam, and at the time of his death was head of composition hack in Utrecht. He loved teaching theory and analysis as

much as composition. After the success of the Sinfonia, Keuris was regularly in de-mand for commissions; the list includes the Houston Symphony Orchestra and the BBC. In 1991 he was chosen as the Dutch composer in 'Arruro Toscanini", a multiple commis-sinn from the Orchestra Sinfonica dell'Emilia-Romagna, which presented new works from all the countries of the EU.

As he developed, his musical language became richer and deeper. Keuris was never dismissive of other styles, but knew the way he had chosen was right for him. He always believed that music must actively communicate, and convince the listeners emotionally. Just as he had not rejected tonality, neither did he reject conventional forms: in fact, he became more attached to them as time passed.

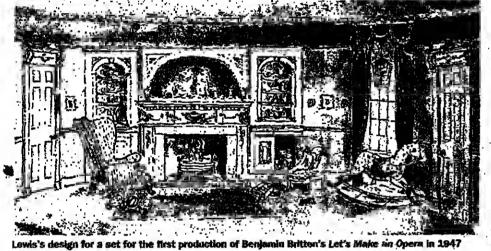
The Symphony in D, which he completed in 1995, is a culmination of this process: not only is its title provocative in its naming of a key, but its formal processes are much more concerned with the mainstream symphonic tradition.

Certainly, before his final short illness he feh he was at the height of his powers, and that he had found a way to communicate his musical thoughts in the fullest possible way. At the time of his death he was working on a song cycle based on the poems of Rilke, for the distinguished Dutch mezzo Jard van Nes - in 1990, he had written one of his most beautiful works, the Three Michelangelo

Songs for her. Keuris was only an intermittent visitor to Britain, latterly for the much delayed British premiere of his Concerto for Saxophone Quartet and Orchestra in 1994, but thanks to the healthy state of Dutch culture much of his music has appeared on LP and CD, most recently the Symphony in D and the Second Violin Concerto - still to receive its first public performance.

Martin Cotton

Tristan Keuris, composer: born Amersfoort, the Netherlands 3 October 1946; married (two children); died 15 December 1996.



Michael Bruno

Michael Bruno will be remembered as the economist behind the 1985 stabilisation plan, which brought Israel's annual rate of inflation down in one year from a horrendous 400 per cent to a manageable 20 per cent.

Although there were elements of monetarism in his strategy, he was neither doctrinaire nor conscrvative. Fellow practicitioners defined his approach as pointed governor of the Bank 'heterodox" rather than "orthodox". He took what he, and his country, needed from different schools of economics.

Bruno's strength as an economics professor who aban-doned academia for the compromised world of politics was his inventiveness. He had a rare skill for marrying theory with practice, a talent for explaining his ideas to noneconomists and selling them to his political masters.

The anchor of his programme was a fixed exchange rate, since many Israeli prices were linked, formally or infor-

mally, to the dollar. This was accompanied by drastic cuts in the state budget, backed by high rates of interest and a freeze on wages and prices. Real interest rose to 20-30 per cent, which Bruno later admitted was too drastic even in an emergency.

After serving as economic ad-

viser to the Finance Mininster, Yitzhak Modai, Bruno was apof Israel in 1986 when Labour's Shimon Peres was Prime Minister in a national-unity coalition. Although he was identified with the Labour movement, the subsequent Likud Government pressed him to stay on when his term expired in 1991. Instead, he joined the World Bank as chief economist, a post in which he continued until a few months before his death from hone cancer.

At the Bank of Israel, he was respected as an open-minded. if outspoken governor, "People felt a strong attachment to him once they knew him," a former

colleague said. "He had no stomach for intrigues between departments. His decisions were always to the point. Personality didn't come into it. He read the material. He worked a lot at home. He listened very attentively."

Michael Bruno was born in Hamburg in 1932. His German Jewish family moved to Palestine a year later after Hitler rose to power. Bruno came to England to read Mathematics and Economics at Cambridge, then took a doctorate at Stanford in California.

Back in Israel, he worked at the Bank of Israel from 1957 to 1963, when he joined the Economics department of the Hehrew University of Jerusalem. He was appointed to the Carl Melchior chair of international economics in 1970 and was awarded an Israel Prize, his country's highest honour forscholastic or artistic achievement, in 1994. After returning to Jerusalem

from Washington earlier this year, knowing that his condition was incurable, Bruno threw himself bravely into the task of upgrading his old university's department of economics into a semi-independent school with new funding. He hoped he would have time to help restore

some of its waning reputation. Politically, Bruno was on the left of Israeli politics, defined in terms of attitude towards the Arab neighbours, rather than the ownership of the means of production, distribution and exchange. He was among the founders of the Peace Now movement in 1978 and was active in both its demonstrations and its inner counsels. In advance of the 1981 general election. Bruno persuaded the Labour Party to write into its platform that it did not want Israel to go on ruling another people.

He inherited the German Jew's love of music and the arts, attending concerts until shortly before his death. He was married

twice, and is survived by both wives and by two sons and a daughter from his first marriage. Eric Silver

On three occasions in 1955-56, writes Tam Dalyell, Michael Bruno came to Scotland to stay in my home during the Christmas and Easter vacations, when returning to Israel was too difficult and expensive. At that time, he was an engineerturned-economist graduate, who had been sent to King's College, Cambridge on the recommendation of Don Patinkin, Professor of Economics at the Hebrew University.

We had the privilege of being supervised together by Harry Johnson, Nicky Kaldor, Robin Marris and Joan Robinson. Bruno's particular interests were trade cycle theory, as outlined by Roy Harrod and Michael Kaletsky, and under-

importance to Israel at that ical practice in Hamburg had

Bruno was a workaholic by nature, which trait was reinforced by a tremendous sense of obligation to his fellow countrymen in Israel, who had made his further education possible. He once summed it up: "You cannot quite understand, here in Britain, when I tell you that I have to work to contribute to the very survival of my country." He was also a real believer in manual work. Once when he was staying in Scotland a cattle grid was needed; he instantly offered to huild it, and did, with

me as his labourer. At Christmas 1956, I was invited to stay with his parents at their home in Haifa. Michael was away, as he often was, doing part of his military service in the Negev. Dr Bruno, his father, told me of the circumstances which he believed had development, especially the contributed to the formation of work of Professor Ragnar his son's outlook on the world. Nurkse - both subjects of great A grateful patient in his med-

summoned him to his house late at night on the pretext of an emergency call on behalf of his infant daughter. When I arrived, he said it was not Greta who was ill, let alone in danger

 'It is you and your family. I have Nazi connections, but am grateful to you - get out of Ham-burg tomorrow!" Mercifully, as Michael Bruno said later: "We took the hint and survived many of my parents' friends did not and were to perish in the Having scrambled to Pales-

tine, Dr Bruno confirmed that the apocryphal story of new builders passing bricks to one another, "danke, Herr Lehrer", "danke, Herr Zahnara", "danke, Herr Professor", was literally true in his case. He had built houses when he first arrived.

Michael Bruno's childhood was spent partly at the Kibbutz of Guivat Brenner, His younger

hal Kibbutz at Revivim in the Negev Desert. This had been one of the more inhospitable spots on the face of the planet. Michael Bruno joined us. Morale was extremely high. The place exuded comradeship. Ashkenazi (German-born) Brunos and Sabra (from the word for prickly pear, used to describe Kibbutz-born) Israelis got on famously: "There is nothing like coping with adversity for creating real contentment."

When my wife Kathleen and in 1991 spent an evening at Michael Bruno's home, when he had become an extremely influential central banker nationally and internationally, he was still the same person; "coping with adversity" was what Michael Bruno's life was all about.

Michael Bruno, economist: born Hamburg 30 July 1932; married 1958 Ofra Hanoch (née Hirshenof Guivat Brenner, His younger brother, Danny Bruno, a tough Kibbutznik, took me to the Na-died Jerusalem 25 December 1996.

Announcements for Guzette AIRTHS, MARRIAGES & HEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marringes, Deaths, Memortal services, Wedding anniversaries, In Memortant should be sent in orthing to the Guzette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Loudon E1450L, tisephoned to 9171-293 20121 or faxed to 9171-293 20121 or faxed to 9171-293 2010, and are charged at \$6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER (arette amouncements (notices, func-tions, Forthcoming matringes, Marringes) toust be submitted in writing (or fuxed) and are charged at £10 a fine, VAT extra.

Appointments Mr Adrian Charles Smith, to be a circult judge, assigned to the Northern

Mrs Sarah Anne Williams, to be

full-time chairman of Social Securily Appeal Tribunals, Medical Appeal Tribunals, Disability Appeal Tri-bunals and Child Support Appeal Mr Patrick Talbet QC and Ms So-

nia Prontman QC, to be Benchers of Lincoln's ton The Earl of Lichfield, to be Deputy Licutenant for the County of Staffordshire.

Inner Temple The following have been elected Masters of the Bench of the Inner

Mr Justice Reith; Judge Weeks OC, Mr Michael Spencer OC; Mr Roderick Denger QC; Mist Genevra Caws OC; Mr Victor Tent-ple QC; Mr Richard Plander OC.

Changing of the Guard
TODAY: The Household Cavalry Mounted Reponent mounts the Queen's Life Guard at thorse
Guards. Hans. Nigneger Coupant Grenader
Guards mounts for Queen's Quard at Bucking-land Policy. H. Mun. band provided by the
Granader Guards. TOMORET for The House-hold Cavalry Mounted Registers assemts the
Coupand Coupant of the Coupand to Coupand.

Birthdays .

TODAY: Mr Intikhab Alam, former Pakisian cricketer, 55: Mr Lew Ayres, actor, 88; Mr Terry Butcher, footballer, 38; Mr William Camps, former Master of Pembroke College, Cambridge, 86; Mr Donald Carr, cricketer, 70; Sir Ellis Clarke, former presideol, Trinidad and Tobago, 79; Major Madeleine Crages, secretary, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, 51; Mr Thomas Gould VC, 82; Mr Max Hastings, editor-in-chief, the London Evening Standard, 51; Mr London Evening Standard, 51; Mr Roy Hattersley MP, 64; Mr Noel Johnsoo, actor, 80; Mr Nigel Kennedy, violinist, 40; Mrs Frances Morrell, former leader, ILEA, 59; Sir Patrick O'Connor, former Lord Jus-tice of Appeal, 82; Mrs Bridget Prentice MP, 44; Mr Simon Ravon, author and playeright, 69; Mrs Joan Ruddock MP, 53; Dame Maggie Smith, actress, 62; The Right Rev William Westwood, former Bishop of Peterborough, 71; The Hon Ge-

offrey Wilson, former chairman, Delta plc. 67. TOMORROW: June, Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair, musical director and conductor, 83; Mr Andrew Bache, ambassador to Denmark, 57; Sir Richard Beaumont, former diplomat, 84; Lord Beaverbrook, former chairman, Beaverbrook Foundation, 45; Mr John Connell, former chairman, the Distillers Co, 72; Mr Bernard Cribbins, actor, 68; Baroness Denton of Wakefield, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, North-ern Ireland, 61: Miss Marianne ern Ireland, 61: Miss Marianne Faithfull, singer and actress, 50; General Sir Robert Ford, former governor, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, 73; Professor Laurence Gower, former Vice-Chancellor, Southampton University, 83; Mr David Hall, former chief constable of Humberside, 66;

Mr Terry Lewis MP, 61; Miss Mary Tyler Moore, actress, 59; Mr Martin Offiah, rugby player, 30; Mr Iain Paxton, rugby player, 39; Mr Peter Robinson MP, 48; Mr Alan Rusbridger, editor, the Guardian, 43; The Right Rev Mark Saater, Bishop of Birmingham, 50: Sir Kenneth Shave Birmingham, 50; Sir Kenneth Sharp, chartered accountant, 70; Mr Har-vey Smith, show-jumper, 58; Mr Jon Voight, actor, 58; Sir Edward

Williams QC, former judge,

Anniversaries TODAY: Births: Thomas Woodrow Wilson, 28th US president, 1856; Philip Wilson Steer, artist, 1860; St John Greer Ervine, playwright and dramatic critic, 1883; Earl "Patha" Hines, jezz pianist, 1905. Deaths: St Francis de Sales, 1622; Queen Mary Francis de Sales, 1672; Queen Mary II (of William and Mary), 1694; Rob Roy (Robert Macgregor), clan chief, 1734; Thomas Babington Macaulay, first Baron Macaulay, author and statesman, 1859; George Robert Gissing, novelist, 1903; Alexandre-Gustave Effel, engineer, 1923; Maurice Joseph Ravel, composer, 1937; Victor Emmanuel III, former King of Italy, 1947; Jack Lovelock, athlete of ftaly, 1947; Jack Lovelock, athlete and surgeon, killed 1949; Paul Hindemith, composer, 1963; Sam Peck-inpah, film director. 1984. On this day: Westminster Abbey was dedicated, 1065; Spain recognised the in-dependence of Mexico, 1836; in the United States, the first patent for chewing gura was issued, 1869; the world's first public film show took place in Paris, 1895; Messina, Sicily was almost completely destroyed by an earthquake, when over 150,000 lives were lost, 1908; the independence of Estonia was proclaimed, 1917; the frish Free State became the Republic of Ireland, 1937; Ahmen Mr Roger Hart, ambassador 10 Ap-gola, 53; Sir Simon Horuby, President, Royal Horticultural Society, 62, day is the Feast Day of St Antony of

Lérins. The Holy Innocents (Childermas) and Si Theodore the

TOMORROW: Births: Jeanne-Antoinene, Marquise de Pompadour, mistress of Louis XV, 1721; Charles Macintosh, chemist and inventor of waterproof clothing, 1766; Charles Goodyear, inventor of vulcanised rubber, 1800: William Ewart Gladstone, statesman, 1809; Alexander Parkes, chemist, inventor of a second Parkes, chemist, inventor to a section method of vulcanising rubber, 1813; Pablo Casals, cellist, 1876; Vera Mary Brittain, author, pacifist and feminist, 1893; Klaus Emil Julius feminist, 1893; Klans Emil Julius Fuchs, Soviet spy, 1911. Deaths: St Thomas á Beckett, murdered 1170; Jacques-Louis David, painter, 1825; William Crotch, composer, 1847; Christina Georgina Rossetti, poet, 1894; Rainer Maria Rilke, poet, 1926; Donald Robert Perry Marquis, journalist and humorist, 1937; The Earl of Stockton (Flarold Macmillan), statesman, 1986. On this day: the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, Lon-don, opened, 1720; Sarah Siddons, as Portia, made her first appearance on the London stage, 1775; Texas be-came the 28th of the United States, 1845; the massacre at Wounded Knee, South Dakota, took place, when 200 Sioux Indians were killed. 1890; Radio Luxembourg started operating 1930; the City of London was the subject of a fire-bomb raid, 1940; the magazine Life ceased publication, 1972. Today is the Feast Day of St Ebruif or Evroult, St Marcelhus Akimetes, St Thomas of Can-terbury and St Trophisms of Arles.

Lectures TODAY

Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "Post Modernism", Ipm. TOMORROW Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury,

"Post Modernism", 2.30pm.

As if life isn't tough enough already when you're five, Jamie was told one day after school that he had been cast as an angel in the nativity play. He announced this with dignified restraint, as he stood in the hallway wearing his favourite Liverpool away strip, quietly smouldering at the prospect of having to exchange it for public humiliation in tights, tinsel and

feathers It wasn't until the following Saturday morning that the idea for his rescue came to me. We were watching cartoons which came, one after the other, with the same storyline: always our heroes, against all odds, engaged in a death-defying struggle to thwart some archetypal power-crazed evil character poised to destroy the world. They were in fact apocalyptic. The next time Jamie mentioned the dreaded event I told him the stories of Michael and the dragon in the sulphurous lake, and of Daniel's vision of the messenger with fiery torches for eyes. These angels in their indigenous habitat, apocalyptic, caught Jamie unawares and, in his imagination, he said they seemed more like Gladiators. Once he had provided the key, it was a short step to the day when he was able to stride on stage and bellow "Fear Not" with all the force and attitude of the Wolf-man, and no hint of the traditional Good Fairy anywhere in sight.

If Jamie had been granted a flash of insight, mine was to dawn more slowly. Days later, as I browsed the childreo's Bibles in the local bookstore. I realised they were all the same: David, Goliath, wise men, shepherds, fishermen, loaves and fishes, and an angel who looked almost indecently innocent. No stars falling ont of the sky. little other than that he has escaped. Who or when their life is shattered by tragedy.

Meanings of Christmas

Children need the Bible's melodrama

The Rev Andrew Spurr argues that Bible stories must be allowed to frighten and disturb

us. Sentimentality merely inoculates children against real faith and mystery.

earthquakes, rivers of blood, and certainly no angels on horseback. It was as if 4.000 years of religious vision and imagination had been taken on by Enid Blyton, and Enid Blyton had won. The churches, desperate to retain their influence, have been co-conspirators in this inoculation of a weak representation of faith into children which has rendered them immune to the real thing when they get to an age when life starts to bite back. Then we wonder why our young abandon church at the age when they experience the mini-apocalypse of their hormones kicking in.

Yet Matthew's tale is an ominous dream-directed narrative with more terror than joy. Joseph's dreams suspend the dread of his fiancee's infidelity, anticipate the hoofbeats of Herod's horses, and prompt the safe time to return from hiding. The child whom he protects is silent at the centre of this dark tale; we know

is this child: who can inspire such pro-tection in Joseph, awe in the astrologers, hatred in Herod? Behind him is a grisly trail of carnage as the hopes of parents for the future are destroyed. The viciousness withdraws leaving the eerie wail of Rachel, symbol of motherhood, crying out into the darkness, her head back baying at the moon for all time.

Luke offers an enchanting tale set

against the backdrop of Imperial Rome. A young woman in an occupied country, engaged to a descendant of an indigenous folk-hero, is visited by an angel of war who announces that her child will assume the throne of the nation. Her assent initiates a course of events more powerful than she can imagine. In the meantime, the elderly, who

have kept vigil for a new day, are rewarded by their own annunciation. Zechariah is iold he will be the father of a son by a wife as old as Sarah's laugh. He is struck mute, and at the birth of his son he will sing.

Who is this child, who is quietly at the ceotre of all this enchantment, where barreo women and virgins conceive, angels direct events, and Mary's heart, where all these things are treasured, is promised a sword?

These stories are filled with fear and awe. They point to a life which will later have even more danger and wonder than surrounded its birth. When we neglect to introduce them to our children, they are denied the chance to see real power at an age when their capacity for dread and enchantment is at its keenest. The opportunity evades them to trust that the hand of God is present when they are amazed,

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Peace on Earth, but not enough goodwill

et's start with the optimism. The world is at peace this Christmas, or most of it is anyway. There are no inter-state hattles underway and though there are plenty of civil conflicts, there probably have been fewer wars this year than at any time for decades. Dozens of small-scale and very violent conflicts have flared, it is true; but Bosnia has not gone hack to war, Russia has not disintegrated, China has not gone to war over Taiwan, the conflicts of southern Africa are waning, and the long guerrilla wars of ceotral and south America seem to be unwinding.

There are plenty of reasons why conflict is at a low ebh. The main one is the evaporation of the Cold War, the historic 50-yearlong struggle between Russia and America. That has left the US, like Britain at the end of the Napoleonic Wars, as the sole power that is able to exert its influence wherever and whenever it wants.

Since Immanuel Kant and Adam Smith, liberals have hoped that trade and investment would hring perpetual peace by making every state more familiar and inter-dependent with its oeighbours in a family of nations. As anyone who has just spent two days locked inside with their nearest and dearest will testify, familiarity and proximity do not always help to ensure harmony. But there is some truth in this idea; the European Union and regional trading blocks around the world are removing harriers and bringing countries closer together in the pursuit of greater material wealth.

But it is at this point in the argument that the optimism pales. We do not have a single formula for perpetual peace, and (like Tolstoy's unhappy families) all wars are unalike, with widely varying causes which are not susceptible to a single answer. There are pleoty of reasons to think that, viewed historically, 'his Christmas is about as peaceful as humanity gets. The next 12 months mny well be more violent than the last. The world is less prone to war, but there is not a lot of goodwill around; as City analysts would put it, downside risks abound.

The Middle East is the main cause for concern. As in Northern Ireland, a peace process has bloomed and then wilted. It is now in great danger of fading altogether. There is little goodwill between the Palestinians and the Israelis since the election of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu threatened to destroy the Oslo process.

The Gulf, too, is a volatile place with both Iraq and Iran unhappy at the status quo and eager to disrupt the US-led regional framework that emerged in an ad hoc way from the Gulf War. And the coalition behind the



United States in the region is as shaky as ever, as demonstrated vesterday by France's decision to withdraw its planes from the skies over Northern Iraq.

China is the other blip on the radar. It is a country undergoing fantastically rapid economic and social change, with an unsteady political apparatus that sometimes seems barely able to contain what is going on within its borders. China's growing nationalism may be contained, and its efforts to resolve its border problems with India and Russia are laudable. Nor is the drum-beinging in the US over the "Chinese threat" particularly helpful. Nevertheless, as last year's confrontation with Taiwan showed, there is always the potential for China's many disputes with its neighbours to escalate.

What the peace reminds us of, however, is that war is not an organic necessity in any part of the world. The presence of rising and falling states, border disputes, economic and environmental tension and ethnic conflict, can be handled, or contained, with hard work and ingenuity. Goodwill cannot be engineered, but peace can be held even where fraternity runs thin.

That must not stop us seeking room for improvement. Conflict prevention through diplomacy and confidence-building measures can function if it is given time, and that means giving it greater priority. It is cheap and it can be effective, which should commend it to any state that has an interest in maintaining peace. Secondly, peacemaking (something which was relatively successful in Bosnia) can work if it has the backing of the UN and the main military powers. Thirdly, rapid and effective rebuilding of infrastructure and civil society after a conflict is vital. That task is proceeding too slowly in Bosnia, but it is happening. We are learning. The last seven years have taught us a lot about war and peace.

All of these lessons apply to the main Western powers, those with the military punch, diplomatic strength and economic clout to fight wars or to stop them if they want to. But they are also lessons for ooe man who is doubtless enjoying the festive season a little more than most after getting just what he wanted for Christmas. Kofi Annan, the new United Nations Secretary-General, has plenty of experience of keeping the peace from his years as an international civil servant. He is well-equipped to guide the organisation principally charged with maintaining the security of the whole world at such an important time. Let's hope that he can take us through another, still more peaceful year ahead.

- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

Powers of DTI inspectors are an offence against natural justice

Sir: Your view (Business comment. 18 December) that DTI reports should continue to play an important role in the apparatus for determining blame" in corporate malfeasance is at best controversial.

The massive expense of DTI reports, not to mention the bureaucratic inefficiency and inordinate delays, makes their public service highly questionable. But more importantly, the exceptional powers conferred upon DTI inspectors are contrary to natural justice.

If one speaks to those who have been subjected to the oppressive procedure of DTI inspectors, the themes are all too familiar. They consistently complain of prejudice on the part of inspectors; of disjointed and disorderly questions;

Fox-hunting

long overdue

for reform

Sir: Your leader column (24

December) cannot argue that fox-

hunting is cruel but shouldn't be

objectionable minority groups at

large. Not much of an argumen!

class war - a majority of rural residents oppose fox-hunting and

banned, on the basis there are many

It's not about an urban-driven

many suffer from trespass, blocked

mads, intimidation of dissenters.

and nffensive arrogance from people who think they have a right

to impose their minority standards

on a majority, including the use of public land. Hunting is not a

harmless activity.

The impact of fox predation is

the least effective way of doing it.

This has no other justification than

entertainment. Good management

of game and livestock is a priority.

of control are available.

ELLIOTI MORLEY MP

House of Commons

Labour Spokesperson for Animal

and effective and humane methods

of interviews conducted in windowless rooms; of being pressed to react instantly to questions relating back many years.

Inspectors are entitled to rely upon evidence that would be inadmissible in a court of law. They are not required to reveal the identities of witnesses and so those under investigation are denied the right to confront or cross-examine their accusers.

It is unacceptable that reports prepared in this manner are routinely published with massive publicity, even though the findings are likely to destroy the reputations of those under investigation. GRANT MACKRILL Bushey, Hertfordshire

Sir: The real iniquity of the

Government's proposal to abolish the two-hour limit for children working on Sundays ("Unions move to sign up child workers", 21 December) is that it will result in more children working above the current permitted weekly total of 20 hours.

Although the Government claims there will be no significant change, as the overall limit on working hours will remain the same, in reality many children will be pressured by poverty and their employers to work above the permitted weekly

Unrepentant scrooges will be rubbing their hands in glee. In 1996 the chances of a firm being inspected by the authorides are in the order of once every six years, and those caught offending will suffer only a small financial penalty.

One factory inspector's report noted that:

"The profit to be gained by it [violation of a Factory Act] appears to be, to many, a greater temptation than they can resist; they calculate upon the chance of not being found out; and when they see the small amount of penalty and costs, which those who have been convicted have to pay, they find that if they should be detected there will still be a

considerable balance of gain." That report was published in 1856. Tragically, 140 years later, we have slipped back into the full viciousness of the 19th-century

Dr GARY SLAPPER Director, Institute of Industrial and Commercial Law Staffordshire University



Photograph: Angling Times Is fishing cruel too? Anglers argue that they are deeply caring towards their prey

much exaggerated, but if they have to be controlled, hunting with hounds is Sir. Your leader quite correctly exposed the hypocrisy of the antihunt case, and outlined the contradictions and sound libertarian arguments which should encourage Labour politicians to treat the issue

Regretiably, it also gave substance to the erroneous view that hunting is When Parliament receives more than 250,000 letters and a onethe preserve of the wealthy million name petition called for the abidition of hunting, MPs take aristocracy", a view of hunting notice. A future Labour government which is very far from the truth. The will have many priorities to tackle. vast majority of people who follow but a society that puts little value on the suffering of animals often puts hnunds in this country do so on foot or in cars, and include those who are tittle value on the suffering of people. retired, unemployed or low-paid.

Not even a majority of the 45,000 regular mounted followers would Labour is entirely right to tackle what is a moral issue long overduc-for reform. Our commitment to a consider themselves either tree vote on this is a manifesto one. aristocratic or wealthy. They work Only Labour has promised this, hard, and sacrifice little luxuries like and for those people who think this holidays or nights out so they can issue is important they now have a afford to keep a horse and follow clear choice at the next election.

Many would consider themselves "working-class" and many are traditional Labour voters; which is why many Labour candidates in "winnable" rural constituencies are

becoming increasingly worried that hunting may be the issue which costs them a seat.

JANET GEORGE London SE11

Sir: Whoever wrote your leading article appears to have absolutely no idea about anglers and fishing, as our purpose is oot to "maim or kill" the lish we catch.

Yes, game anglers catch salmon and trout for the table, but the vast majority of anglers simply pit their wits and expertise against the species of fish they are endeavouring to eatch, be it for financial reward in match fishing, or for personal satisfaction in specimen, specialist or

pleasure fishing.
All the anglers I know go to great lengths in ensure the safety and welfare of fish they catch, with specially designed equipment and unhowking hats to ensure this end, prior to releasing them back into their watery domain. Anglers care about the environment and the fish and wildlife that are part of our

rivers, lakes and canals. Yes we do get great pleasure from our sport, but we deeply care about the welfare of what we catch and safely return. DA BEAUMONT Knockholt, Kent

Sir: The line you take in your leader about fox-hunting seems a sensible one. There are, indeed, numerous activities which can be a nuisance to non-participants. However, my vote would at present still be for the abolition of fox-hunting because of

the falsehood of it all.

I used to teach in a fox-hunting area, and amongst my pupils were the kennelman's sons. It was quite clear from their diary work that the hunt bred foxes.

At about the same time I saw demonstrated a fox trap. This large device, holding bait, shut when a fox entered. The animal was free to move about until shot the next morning. As a cheap and efficient device, it could not be bettered. RICHARD WELCH Denbigh, Chwyd

because of a fear of how those others will react - in short, we don't feel we can rely on the goodwill of our fellow citizens to back us up. (If I had stopped to help, who would have stopped for me when the knife was turned in my direction?). The sadness is that apathy is infectious. A decade of selfish.

Fear prevents aid for rape victims

Sir. The "bystander apathy" reported by Ann Treneman ("Why Good Samaritans drove by", 23 December) is hardly a rarity – as a

However, further to Professor

Latane's opinion, I would say that

someone when others are around is

Community Police Officer on a

council estate it is something I

the resistance to actively help

contend with every day.

economics, a criminal justice system that fails to protect victims and witnesses, and pressure groups that constantly harp on about individual rights have all contributed to the present mindset, which fails to recognise that as individuals we also have responsibilities. JON FRANKLIN Oxford

Sir: As a society we are no longer culturally, physically or judicially capable of coming to the defence of a rape victim.

Thirty years ago, the cries of a rape victim might have reached the cars of an ex-serviceman who, confident in his physical ability, training, and the backing of society and the law, would have been admirably equipped to see off any

would-be rapist.
Today, a rapist will at least be armed with a knife, but if any would-be rescuer were to consider intervention equipped with a tyre iron or a crook-lock, to defend the life of both the victim and himself, he might end up in the dock rather

than the villain.

Until good, moral sense – in the form of a logical interpretation of reasonable action in the face of violent crime - is restored, and the right-minded citizen is once again fully supported against the violent criminal, there will be many more Chislehursts. D EADSFORTH Winchester

Rally crowded

Sir: I was dismayed to read the caption accompanying the beautiful photograph of Jayne Blair taken at the Belfast Peace Rally (23 December). Far from being disappointed, Yorkshire Television. as one of the organisers, was delighted with the crowd. To say there were only a few hundred at the event was totally misleading. The police estimate alone was a crowd of around two PAULINE DUFFY Executive Producer - Peace Rally Yorkshire Television

Clever Sir Tim

Leeds

Sir: Sir Tim Rice is apparently upset that he has not been receiving sufficient accolades for his "Evita" lyrics (" 'Evita' puts spotlight ou creative feud", 18 December).

He is correct. In his 1976 album and 1978 stage scripts he described Eva Peron as "a new world Madonna with a golden touch".

This line has had to be changed in the recent film to avoid the confusion Sir Tim so mischievously Dr LAURENCE GERLIS

London WI

LETTER from

o you conclude, from reading your newspaper and listening to the radio over Christmas and New Year, that there is a particular propensity around this time for dumping babies out in the cold, getting lost oo mountains, or vanishing tragically after going off in search of a bag of chips? Do people, overwhelmed by the stress and strain of enforced jollity (when in fact they feel desperate, or scared), prove more susceptible to personal disaster?
The answer is almost cer-

tainly no. The only difference about this time of year is that there is rarely anything else to report. The normal political and cultural mayhem is at an ebb; even politicians and celebrities need to spend at least a few hours with their families every year, as do their PR staff and spin doctors. For once, the happy(ish) and healthy(ish) segment of the population is hidden quietly away at home, doing the proper thing and minding its own business. In consequence, terrible individual events that, in fact, happen unreported every day and

everywhere suddenly rise to the top of the news editors' lists, and you get to hear about them. In a way, although sad, this seems rather a good thing. It reminds us that our sense of what is going on in the world is always slightly artificial. And there may even be a fortuitous scasonal value. We should, after all, perhaps recollect at Christmas that for many people the holiday serves only to empha-sise their isolation or dismay.

Which leads neatly on to our Christmas appeal. In recent our Christmas appeal. In recent years one of my most gratifying tasks (first as managing editor, now as deputy) has been to organise appeals. First, the good news. Hundreds of you have responded to this year's appeal, which is on behalf of the NSPCC's work with abused children. By midday yesterday we had very nearly reached £20,000, every penny of which I have no doubt will be gratefully and well used by the charfully and well used by the char-ity. As ever, people's generos-ity has taken me aback.

So do you detect a note of disappointment? To be frank, yes: though grateful to those who have contributed (often very large sums) I had thought we would raise more. Three years ago we raised more than £300,000 for Bosnia charines; last year we raised well over £100,000, again for former Yugoslavia. This year we dehberately chose a charity close to home, and one that is working in a field where the paper has been busy uncovering scandal. Is it possible that Independent readers respond more positively to giving money to people suffer-ing abroad, rather than round the next corner? That would be curious, if true, Either way, I would love to know whether you feel an annual Christmas appeal is a worthwhile exercise, and perhaps hear suggestions about

Is it possible that readers respond more positively to giving money to people suffering abroad, rather than round the corner?

what we might consider next time. And, of course, you can still catch up. Just send a cheque, made out to the Indepeodent/NSPCC Victims of Abuse Appeal, to our usual address.

The best and

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The remain made

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to their 26 per

Andrew State of the State of th

Like many other parents I spend a large part of Christmas playing children's games, talking children's talk, watching chil-dren's television. This occasionally leads to minor journalistic revelation, such as the acquisition of a whole new cultural vocabulary. My youngest daughter (aged two) has just discovered the Big Friendly Gianl and ally leads to minor journalistic his disgusterous muddled words. So, from the back seat of the car earlier this week, Daddy having cracked some feeble joke, she cackled flatteringly and shouted out: "Oh Daddy, you're just bonkerous!" This is a word I am willing to loan to headline writers everywhere. Indeed, I can think of several papers further down market who might have a regular use for it. Have a bonkerous New Year.

> Colin Hughes Deputy Editor

QUOTE UNQUOTE

I predict a shower of meteorites in the autumn, but they will burn up entering the Earth's atmosphere. Otherwise, it doesn't look too bad. It will be a long time yet before the Earth is hlown up - Patrick Moore, astronomer

A week of watching television has left me with the profoundest of respect for the TV critics, who endure conditions of work which make jobs in the sewers seem attractive by comparison - Dr Anthony Daniels on returning to TV-viewing after 30 years

Christmas brought so much excitement to Coronation Street that, by comparison, what happened in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago seemed like a non-event - Roy Hattersley, Labour MP

When I actually meet politicians, the Government, the Royal Family, members of the House of Lords and so on, they are remarkably ordinary people. When you get close to them, they are the same as my Aunt Ethel - Dr George Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury

Marilyn Monroe was the role model for my generation. She was a size 16 and she still is thought of as a goddess - Alice Mahon,
Labour MP, who is introducing a new Bill to clamp down on the slimming industry

For all I knew, when a car had an L-plate on the back of it, it indicated that it was being driven by a leper - Bill Bryson, the American author of a best-selling book about Britain

Virgin Mary tougher than you think

Sir: I would agree with Daphne Hampson that the Church has traditionally used the "Virgin Mother as a stick to beat women (Faith and Reason, 21 December). However, the idea of Mary being passive is frankly ridiculous.

Not only is she approached directly by God as one free to make her own decision, but she maisrs that the Angel explains himself. Then she gices her consent, which is freely given and not mediated by any male relative.

It could have exposed her to death by stoning, as she could not know how Joseph would react.

There are in lact no passive women in the Gospels. In their dealings with Jesus they argue, challenge, make demands,

recognise him as Messiah and are

treated with respect by him. JOSÉ JOHNES Crowle, Herelord & Worcester

Sir: Daphne Hampson repeats that the description of Mary in Marthew's Gospel as a "virgin" is based on a mistranslation of the Greek text of Isaiah 7 from the original Hebrew, It is a non sequitor because the Gospel of Luke also says that Mary was a virgin and does not refer to it as the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy. Further, scholars are satisfied that Luke's source was totally independent of Matthew. ALAN PAVELIN

Out of work, but 'jobless' no more

Sir: The "sharp fall in the jobless" (report, 19 December) need not "refuel rate fears" if my experience is anything to go by. I was registered as unemployed, and would have remained so if the rules had not been changed when the Job Seekers Allowance was introduced.

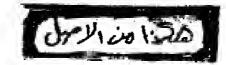
While the Job Centre did not pay me anything, my National Insurance contributions were kept np and l benefited from concessionary entrance prices to venues ranging from my local leisure centre to the Natural History Museum. I was allowed to "sign on" formightly by post, as I live some seven miles from the Job Centre in

Watford. This saved me time and money, and reduced road pollution. With the Job Seekers Allowance came a new rule that postal clients could only remain so if they could not reach the Joh Centre by public

transport in under one hour. Not being prepared to go through the inconvenient and slightly tacky process of signing on in person, this, my first encounter with the benefits system, has ended as part of the alleged "reduction" in unemployment of 95,800 in November. Of course, the reality of my unemployed state has not changed. DEREK SALLEN

Chislehnrst, Kent Rickmansworth, Henfordshire Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Loudon E14 5DL (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.nk) and include a daytime telephone number.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.



Reduced-price insanity

The January sale is crunch-time for the serious shopaholic, writes Jane Furnival

anta has brought us everything on our Christmas lists. So why did thousands of us feel the need to rush back to the shops on Boxing Day for such treasures as a swimsuit made out of garden string, a cherob with a rugby player's broken nose and a pair of thighhigh boots that fall down? (Those are just the failures I'll confess to.)

Going to the January sales is a primitive ritual. We gather to make a killing. Prices are "slashed" and "cut" and written in blood-red, the colour that makes our brains excited, sexually turned on and sometimes angry. It's a lottery. The promise is prizes for all, if only you rummage enough. Sales are also a great escape from post-Christmas family stress. Shops provide a safe, happy environment with everything neat, a smiley staff and a pampering atmosphere, not to mention the feeling that you, the cus-

tomer, can do no wrong. it's usually women who spend, spend, spend on sales but that doesn't mean they are somehow biologically the Shopping Sex. It is simply that they are conditioned to shop, thinks Dr Sheila Rossan, a sexual

stereotype specialist at Brunel University. "It has to do with the fact that traditionally men have been highly directed shoppers because until recently stores were closed after working hours," she says.

Women, on the other hand, have had more spare time and therefore been able to browse and pick and choose. The more ardent women shop in pairs. A recent flyon-the-wall documentary at London's Harvey Nichols revealed only one woman by herself in the whole store, "Women like someone else's opinion. It's a social activ-

ity," Dr Rossan says.
Perhaps for dedicated shoppers, "saleing" is a continuation of the Christmas party feeling, when it is acceptable to be a little out of control. We rationalise our useless bargains by saying we're stocking up. I have seen "salers" copy the purchases of someone smarter next to them in the store. Perhaps Harvey Nicks and Co should try planting a few shoppers with model looks next

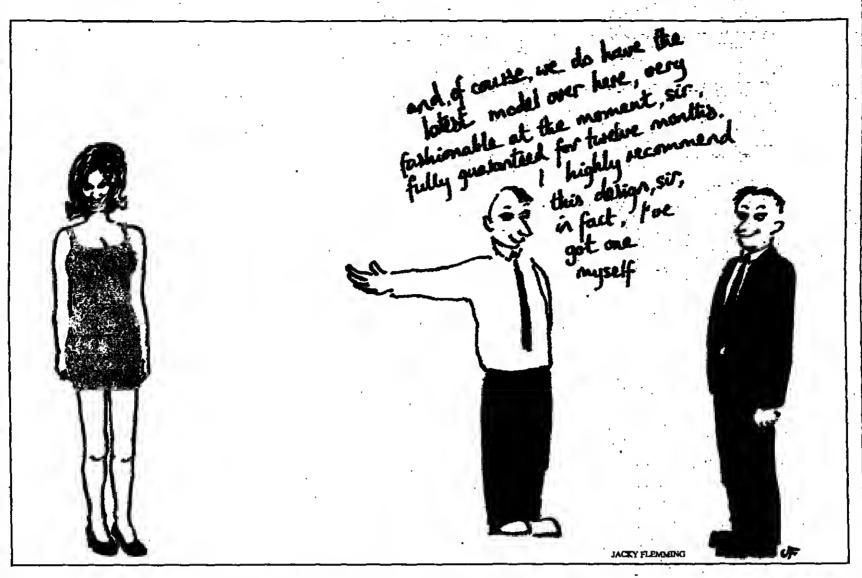
to the atrocious stock. It would move faster. Sale-oholics feel exonerated by the cost. reduction," explains Or Ludwig Lowenstein, the shoppers' shrink, a psychologist who detoxes shopping addicts, or "onomaniacs" as they're known. He will only take a patient if they drop their weapons and go

peacefully by giving up their credit cards. Compulsive shoppers are at the extreme end of the spectrum of the browser-gatherer kind of shopper. Browsers seek a bit of a cheer-up. Compulsive shoppers really think they can fill their inner emptiness with material things. Shoes are at the top of their shopping list - 98.5 million pairs of women's shoes were sold this year followed by perfume and clothes.

they haven't got everything and are often depressed and anxious," says Or Lowenstein. The less well-off end up committing fraud and going to prison to pay their bills.

Compulsive shoppers are like nymphomaniacs. Just as unsatisfied women rifle through every available man in search of the one who can give them the orgasm they have never had, these shoppers get their fix from the surge of adrenatine they get from spotting what might be ... The Solution, the Ultimate Thing that will really fulfil them. But then, like a drug, the feeling wears off and they have to shop to start

the cycle again. The Duchess of York is their patron saint



Good thing



Philippe Starck's 14" portable TV Tilts conveniently so that you can watch it in bed. If you lose the answer. A sure collector's piece, reduced to £199 from £230.

Selfridges, Oxford Street, London sale starts 9am December 27.

and Awful Warning. Even when on her

uppers, she would spend thousands to get

herself out of a downer. She probably

couldn't tell you what she bought.
The more controlled kind of shopper

Shawna Moss is a freelance shopping

adviser based at London's Grosvenor

House Hotel. "Evening dresses are brilliant

buys in the sales," she advises. "So expensive otherwise." She takes her clients to

dress hire shops which often sell lightly

The Opportunist.

Bad thing



Linen pillowcases for £58.65, reduced from £68.95 from The White Company (0171-385 7988). Save your money and mamage by going to bed rather than staying up late ironing them. Lunn Antiques offer similar new linen pillowcases at £34 a pair. Mail order possible. 86 New Road, London, (D171-736 4638).

worn Cinderella ball gowns, like One Night

Stand (44 Pimlico Road, London, SW1, 0171-730 8708). Never be impressed by the name tag, she advises. "I see people get carried away doesn't have this hunger. She is a hunter. by designer names in sales."

Her other tip is to negotiate the sale price down. "The richest women love a bargain. I have one client who can negotiate me under the table. I hide behind the coats." The biggest sale shopper is a new type, the Sightseer. These use shopping as a form of entertainment, sport or therapy.

Sure thing



Most shops give extra discounts, sale previews and reduced price parking to storecard holders. Oon't walt to apply on the first sale day or you'll miss the bargains. Apply In advance - and remember to ask for a temporary card In time for the sale.

Harvey Nichols - 0171-235 5D00 Harrods - D171-73D 123 House of Fraser - 0171-834 1515

Malls were built for Sightseers. They eat sandwiches around the fountains while their children play in the see-through lifts.

Primrose Wells, a 32-year-old wedding organiser, and her mother Maggie Evans, 53, are expert Sightseers. "I'm not an addict, but I enjoy it as therapy," says Maggie. The women see their shopping as female bonding, a celebration of the Christmas spirit, an escapade rather than an escape. There's a lot of camaraderie between mothers and daughters in the changing rooms."

They plan their day carefully, getting up before six in the morning to find the parking space nearest the shop entrances. That leaves time for a civilised breakfast before the shops open. They wear comfortable flat shoes and take only one jumper, tied round their waists, because shops are so hot. They won't buy special sale purchases,

only proper stock. Primrose's big buy last year was nine pairs of roller blades for friends, reduced from £300 to £120 in Macro. "My husband Steve is terrified of going shopping, because I spend money. When you buy something, you rely on men being absent minded. When I hear women in the changing rooms saying, 'What shall I tell my husband?' I say, 'Tell him it's been in your wardrobe for years'."

Are there any men who enjoy sale shopping? Tim Guy, 28, is an HGV driver who counts shopping among his favourite the crowds have died down. At the start of sales, you get 10 per cent off. At the end, you get 50."

While Maggie Evans is at the sales three times a week, her husband Ken, 56, has

not been shopping for two years. Why doesn't he shop? "I'm happy with what I've got," he says, absentmindedly.

 Shawna Moss offers help with sale shopping. Tel 0973 638977 Dr Ludwig Lowenstein offers advice to over-ardent shoppers in person or by letter. Allington Manor, Allington Lane. Fairoaks, Eastleigh, Hants, SO5D 7DE. D1703 692261.

Starts and stops

six of the best 1997 resolutions

Huge spiral-bound diary, £11.99 This diary has a good year planner, important dates, international dialing codes. address pages and a huge notes section at the back - ideal fur any international jet setter. From Paperchase (0171-580 8496) branches nationwide.

OSeven days' large Nicotinell _ patches, £15.99 The patches have been successful oo some people, but different methods of stopping smoking suit different people - including hypnosis, tapes, books and

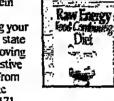
videos. If you do choose to nicotinell try patches ask the pharmacist first if they're suitable for

especially when taking other medication. From Boots, branches nationwide.

Trainers, from a selection by Nike Make sure that you choose the right trainers for the activity: if you do a lot of different sport go for a cross trainer, for aerobics choose one with extra support around the ankles. But generally make sure you huy the right size as feet tend to swell when doing any sport. From J D Sports (01706 628 012) branches

4 'Raw Energy Food Combining Diet', by Leslie Kenton, £6.99 Food combining diets mix

carbohydrates with projein allegedly increasing your energetic state and improving your digestive system. From Books Etc



stores (0171-379 6838) throughout London.

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6 Linguaphone Italian travel pack, £9.99 This pack includes a travel cassette, a language cassette, a phrase book and panic cards. Learning a new language is a challenge, but think how impressed your lady friend will be when you go to Florence or Venice and you can talk the lingo. From Books Etc (0171-379 6838) branches throughout London.

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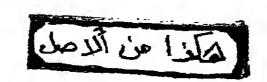
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Best for the road ahead

Gavin Green nominates his top twelve motors for '97

most popular time to huy a new car after August, thanks to the is better to drive than the Polo if not kudos of setting a New Year date on the as roomy. logbook. It's also a much more sensible time to buy than August, not least because all the new models are now safely in place at your local dealer.

This year's top 12 feature six newcomers, proof that it's been a good year for new cars. Major new models of 1997 - which may be worth waiting for include a new small Land Rover (on sale next December), the Renault Scenic (out in June), a oew Toyota Corolla (summer) and the Ford Puma (a small coupé due to hit the road in June). Io the meantime, here are the best value new cars to go for this January:

Baby cars: Ford Ka. Not so much a baby as a stylish babe, the Ka stands out for its wacky lines, directness and eagerness. The back seat is almost useless and the boot's hopeless, but who cares? Also recommended: Fiat Cinquecento Sporting. Tiny in size and big in performance. the sporty Cinquecento is a hoot to drive

Small cars: Volkswagen Polo. The best huilt car in the class, and one of the roomiest. The only downside is that

yourself. January is the second litre model, though - it's too slow. Also recommended: new Ford Fiesta, which

> Medium cars: Fiat Brava. The stepahead family favourite has the boldest design in the Escort class and drives like a sports car. It's also terrifically roomy. The only downside is a slightly jittery ride, which should be fixed next year.

Also recommended: Peugeot 306.
Big cars: Ford Mondeo. This year's mid-life facelift has transformed the one-time class journeyman into a class act. More distinctive looks combine with improvements to the engine, ride and steering, to produce a well-rounded and comfortable family car. Also recommended: Peugeot 406, for its sublime ride and its great looks.

Small executive cars: Audi A4, which sets new standards for style, quality and driver appeal in the class - and easily trumps the old small executive car star, the BMW 3-series. Mind you, the 3-series, despite its age, is still the second best car in the class.

Big executive cars: BMW 5-series. One of the best new cars of 1996 and a machine almost eerily free from fault. It rides, handles and drives brilliantly, and looks bold, if still like a its tremendous popularity means BMW. Go for the 2.3-litre six-cylinder

Also recommended: Mercedes E-class, which isn't quite as good to drive as the 5-series, but is even better made.

Luxury cars: Jaguar XJ6. Now two years old, the latest saloon is the first Jag with German build quality and reliability. Just as important, it mixes these with all those marvellous, long-standing Jaguar niceties such as wafting ride, Edwardian-sitting-room cabin and great style. Late next year, it will get the new V8 engine, as fitted to the XK8 sports car, which will make it even better. Also recommended: Lexus LS400. Understated to the point of being too plain, the Lexus is still the luxury car benchmark for engine refinement and quietness.

4x4s: Jeep Cherokee. Long in the tooth the Cherokee may be, but it's still the best value off-roader on the market and one of the best to drive, easily preferable to a Land Rover Discovery. Its fake wood and leather trim is kitsch to some, but authentically American to others. A facelift and a few mechanical improvements are planned for the coming year. Also recommended: Toyota RAV-4. Easily the best small 4x4, miles ahead of the Suzukis and Daihatsus.

Estates: Mercedes E-class. An expensive way to cart home the goods from the local DIY store, and a pricy way to carry a hig family, but it's still the best

fter spoiling the kids for Christ-you're unlikely to be able to negotiate engine unless you really need big estate car in the world. Built like a tank mas, it's now time to treat much of a discount. Don't huy the 1.0- muscle - in which case specify the 2.8. and full of brilliant details. Also recommended: Renault Laguna estate; Mondeo estate. Both are roomy, well-

made, good value and comfortable.

MPVs: Seat Albambra. Identical to the Ford Galaxy or Volkswagen Sharan hut, owing to its inferior badge, cheaper. Also recommended: the Galaxy or the Sharan - if you don't want to drive a car named after a chair.

Sports cars: Mercedes SLK. Just on sale, but already with a two-year waiting list, the SLK has all the style of the old ex-Princess Diana SL but only half the price tag. Hugely desirable, and fabulous to drive. Also recommended: Jaguar XK8 and MGF. Both prove that while Britain may have lost its indigenous car industry, it hasn't lost the knack of making great sports cars. The MGF shows that Rover can still make imaginative cars, while the XKS is the best engineered Jaguar ever.

Supercars: Bentley Continental T Stupidly expensive (£220,000), stupendously fast and stupefyingly impos-ing, the Continental T is the best Beotley since they woo Le Mans more than 60 years ago. Despite the small size of its maker (Rolls-Royce), the Cooti proves that when it comes to making outrageous, haod-built luxury cars, oobody does it better. Also recommended; any Ferrari.





and the

Going up ...but slowly

Penny Jackson gathers predictions for the new market

3 per cent now look very modest when set against an annual increase of nt least 7 per cent on the latest calculations of the Halifax. Some hot spots have seen rises up to 20 per ceot and more. This year few are showing such caution.

The investment hank, UBS, is not alone in predicting an average rise. alone in predicting an average rise of 10 per cent. For London and the south east UBS expects increases of 15 per cent, while in Scotland, Wales and the North, between 6 and 8 per cent.

What few seemed to have anticproperty that fuelled prices. Sav-ills, who had predicted an average price increase of 5.2 per cent for this year, sees this situation con-

wrong. Their predictions of stock available. This year, their 3 per cent now look very national forecast, which includes a Labour victory, is ao 8.7 per cent ' rise, with prime country houses leading the field at 14.3 per cent. Here, specialists in their field give

David Wood, Black Horse Agencies: "Last month saw our highest number of applicants but they are not putting their own houses on the market. However, early in 1997, when they become aware of the shortage of property, I expect ipated was the shortage of good to see new instructions coming in, They will certainly get from the market immediately before between 1 and 3 per cent more than in the last quarter of 1996. I do not think the election will have tinuing as long as people's housing much effect on the market, oor a Yolande Barnes, Savills: "We see

his year the forecasters got it aspirations are not matched by the steady increase in interest rates. There will still be good mortgage deals around oext year."

Ian Darby, John Charcol, mort-gage adviser: "If interest rates do not rise and prices continue to increase, the market will become overheated. For that reason we expect interest rates to rise after the election and that by the end of the year they will be 8.99 per cent. That means about a 30 per cent increase in the cost of money which will slow the market down. As a result we see bouse prices rising nationally by 6 per cent and a bit more in the south east. We expect the General Election to have a dampening effect on and after.

London

prices in prime central London south by six to nine months. I increasing by 7.4 per cent, but higher increases in the second division of established locations. These include Waodsworth, Chiswick, Clapham Common, Battersea, Brook Green, West Hamp-

Highbury." rise at about 10 per cent. I wouldn't be surprised to see 15 to 20 per cent for the best examples of their kind, although I do not see a return to

the boom of the late Eighties."

stead, Fulham, Hammersmith and

The North-east

Bryan Jaram, Jackson-Stops & Staff: "We have seen an average increase of 5 per cent over the year. We will see an uplift next year because we always lag behind the earnings generally in London will

expect to see a lot more activity early in the year as there is a great deal of pent-up demand."

The North-west

Graham Adnitt, Jackson-Stops & Staff: "We are not getting a movement of people into the North-west Rebecca Read, Cluttons: Prices so I cannot see anything forcing in central London will continue to prices up. I see the market moving ahead slowly and steadily."

Country houses

Ian Homersham, John D Wood, which largely covers the south; "More properties should start coming on to the market next year but unless it is swamped, which is unlikely, it will not be possible to keep up with demand. The scarcity of good houses and the increase in

push prices up by about 12 per cent. There will be increasing pressure on homes in popular locations for which some people will be prepared to pay that bit extra. There is a strong market at the moment and those considering selling would be advised to take advantage of it."

David Mote, The House Builders' Federation: "The increase in starts has been lowest in London and the South-east where the demand for good quality homes is highest. It is critical for more planning permission to be given. We expect to see a decline in the nse of 'brown land' as it becomes more expensive to develop there. We see house prices rising on

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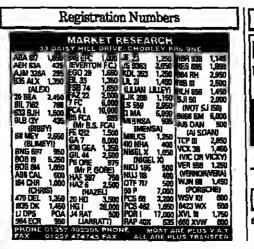
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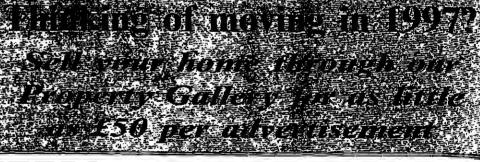
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JEREMY WARNER

The utilities are going to have a really bad time of it. The windfall profits tax will be designed in a way that chiefly hits the water and

electricity companies'

Everything that you need to know about 1997

Tam getting in early with my New Year foreTokyo remains in the doldrums – again. This claim they would never have set up their rival diction of all. Tony Blair's New Labour will ese revival. Why should it be? Japan is now networks had they known this was going to gain control? "Oh, that's because they didn't win the general election with a sizeable though not overwhelming majority while the Conservative Party will degenerate into a state of outright civil war, it is by no means clear that the Euro-sceptics will end up on

What this means for financial markets is a more difficult question to answer. Certainly Mr Blair as prime minister will mark a quite decisive break with Britain's imperial past and the government can as a consequence be expected to become more positive about Europe.

That doesn't mean we'll be in the first wave of those joining the single European currency, which will be confined to Germany, its satellite states, and France. Sorry, Italy, not yet. Sterling will retain some of its recent strength, if only because interest rates will be rising strongly to choke off runaway demand and to counter-balance Labour's spending plans. Don't expect markets to be quite as sanguine about a change of government as Gordon Brown would like to think. To establish its credibility with markets, New Labour is going to have to prove itself and that's going to mean tough choices

on spending and taxation.

a mature economy. Even at this depressed level, shares remain extremely overvalued against other stock markets. Serious difficulties will arise during the handover in Hong Kong. There will be bloodshed and an international crisis, further undermining confidence in international markets. No more exuherance in stock prices.

What happens on the domestic from depends on the extent to which Labour follows stated policy, such as it is. One thing is not in doubt, bowever, the utilities are going to have a really bad time of it. The windfall profits tax will be designed in a way that chiefly hits the water and electricity companies. On top of that, they can expect much tougher regulation including the introduction of a formalised system for sharing profits between customers and sharebolders. Shares in companies that remain independent can be expected to be reduced to the status of bonds.

There will be a revival of the corporate state under Mr Blair. Particularly favoured status is given to British Telecom, BSkyB, the BBC, and BP. BT's deal with Labour - to wire up all public institutions to the superhighway free of charge in return for being released early from the ban on broadcast The stock market will go nowhere: Wall released early from the ban on hroadcast Street comes seriously off the boil; and yes, entertainment - is enacted, causing a flood

happen. The relationship between BT, Rupert Murdoch and Mr Blair becomes progressively stronger causing growing unease in media and political circles.

Competition policy will be operated with a light touch, despite stated intentions on this front; those that believe Labour will kill off the deal-making industry will be proved wrong. Corporate finance departments con-tinue to thrive, finding ever more ingenious ways of doing things.

Pearson and EMI will flirt with, and pos-

sibly consummate, a merger. EMI's chairman, Sir Colin Southgate is a friend of Pearson's chairman in waiting, Dennis Stevenson, Sir Colin is known to want to take EMI into other forms of intellectual property - publishing in particular - and both companies are under threat of hostile takeover. What could be a more natural fit?

There will be at least another two insurance mergers. Scottish Widows is demutualised via a takeover from a leading English

clearing bank.

And now for the silly but plausible predictions. Sir Leon Brittan will retire from the European Commission to become a highly paid international gopher for Goldman Sachs. That creates a British vacancy at the Commission and who better to fill it than

economist at Goldman Sachs, is appointed Governor. Don Cruickshank will survive as director-general of Oftel, as will his opposite number at Ofgas, Clare Spottiswoode, but the other regulators, lan Byatt (Ofwat). Stephen Littlechild (Offer), John Bridgeman (Office of Fair Trading) and John Swift (the rail regulator), will go - all to be replaced by high-profile political animals.

I make no apologies for returning to the high drama surrounding the closing stages of CE Electric's bid for Northern Electric. Nobody emerges well from the episode, least of all the Takeover Panel, which once again comes out of the mire looking as awkward and out of place as a country squire at a Spice Girls party. I've yet to get to the bottom of why the Panel decided to extend the bid, thus allowing the Americans to gain control, but it would appear to be as a kind of punish-ment to the defending team.

Not that this is at all apparent from the Panel's statement in which BZW is exonerated over the little matter of the undisclosed £250,000 fee. Even if we had known about this fee, the Panel says, we still would have allowed BZW to make all those defensive tell us about it." Yes, well.

The lawyers were just dying to crawl all over this one. The Americans were in no mood to abide by the Panel's decision, should it have gone against them, and the writ was already under preparation. By doing what it did, the Panel avoids an embarrassing court challenge to its authority and BZW escapes without even the slightest reprimand. And don't you dare suggest we are open to criticism, warns Martin Tay-lor, chief executive of Barelays, BZW's parent company. For how much longer can the City get away with messy compromises of this sort? By any stretch of the imagination, this one's a classic. Northern's been punished but its advisers have not been reprimanded.

The truth of the matter is that self-regulation is as unsatisfactory in takeovers as it is in any other walk of life. Inevitably, the self-regulating organisation operates for the benefit of the members it regulates, rather than the wider public interest. However fierce the battle of the moment, the interests of the whole are generally best served by sweeping these questionable episodes under the earpet. Overt criticism is rarely made and even more rarely acted share purchases in the market. "It wasn't a upon. That's one thing that won't change bung to BZW for the purchase of the much next year. Of that we can be certain.

Business review of the year

January

The new year starts as the old one ended with one of the most bitterly contested takeover battles of recent times - Granada's hostile till at the Forte hotels and restaurant group. But 1996 is harely a week old when a new storm hits the City. The Stock Exchange sacks its chief executive, Michael Lawrence, saying he had lost the confidence of its member firms and ine poard. A Lawrence had tried to push through unpopular reforms at the Exchange and trod on too

many toes. Woolwich Building Society follows the Halifax with plans to become a bank and seek a stock market listing. More than 3.5 million members look forward to their share in a £3bn windfall. Interest rates are cut by 0.25 per cent to 6.25 per cent. UniChem makes an agreed £548m offer for the Lloyds

Chemists chain. But a year later the deal will not have reached a conclusion. Forte concedes defeat in its £3.8hn battle against Granada in spite of a "scorched earth" defence. Sir Rocco Forte bows

out with the pledge: "I'll be

Hanson, the archetypal conglomerate, announces plans to break itself up into four companies. It is a trend others will follow.

February

The end of a "fat cat". British Gas says its unpopular chief executive, Cedric Brown, will retire in May - a year early. The blow is softened by an annual pension of £247.000 and a oneyear £120,000 consultancy deal. Mr Brown, who was lamhasted as the ultimate "fat cat" after a 75 per cent pay rise in 1994, denies he was pushed out by the British Gas chairman, Richard

Mr Giordano, an American, angers "Sid", the group's army of small investors, saving the utility bas 100 many shareholders. British Gas also reveals plans to split into two. British Gas Energy and TransCo In-ternational, the pipeline business, arc the new entities.

Gehe of Germany tops UniChem's offer for Lloyds Chemists with a £584m cash bid. MAI merges with the Express newspapers group United News & Media in a £3bn deal.

Rateatcher Rentokil launches a £1.8bn bid for the business services group BET.

Thorn-EMI announces plans to separate its Thorn rentals business from the EMI music

March

The prospect of economic recovery gathers pace with sharp increases in house prices, followed by the third cut in interest rates in four months. Base rates are cut by another 0.25 per cent to 6 per cent. But shoppers and estate agents stay cautious as the feel-good factor remains

the BSE scare on beef flares up, hitting shares in meat groups. Supermarkets are affected too

European downstream husinesses in a \$5bn deal that means 3,000 job losses. Former Stock Exchange chief executive Michael Lawrence

agrees a £500,000 compensation

Two Swiss drugs companies, Ciba-Geigy and Sandoz, announce a £40bn merger to cre-

ate a new behemoth, Novartis. and Andrew Tuckey of responassurances from them regarding their intentions to re-enter the investment industry.

Bass is said to be in talks to buy Allied Domecq's share in ling shakes up P&O, including plans to float Bovis Homes. Chelsea becomes the sixth

football club to gain a stock market listing when Chelsea Village goes public.

April

The higgest merger deal in UK corporate history is in prospect with news that BT and Cable & Wireless are in discussions about combining their opera-tions. However, neither side can apparently agree on anything, including price.

The housing market gets a much-needed boost when Nationwide, Britain's secondhiggest huilding society, cuts its main mortgage rate by 0.25 percentage points to 6.74 per cent, the lowest since January 1965. It sets off a wave of cuts by other societies and banks Some 1.4 million members of

National & Provincial vote on . its £1.35bn takeover by Abbey National. The deal is approved. The Woolwich drops a bomb-shell with the sacking of Peter Rohinson, its £300,000-a-year

chief executive, amid allegations that he had misused society resources. Mr Robinson accuses Woolwich directors of plotting against him. Electricity takeover activity continues unabated with the shock news that the Southern Company of the US is seeking

same time National Power eyes up Southern Electric of the UK and PowerGen approaches Midlands Electricity. Rover faces a shock of a dif-

to buy National Power. At the

ferent kind when its owner, BMW, transforms a £91m profit reported for 1995 into a £148m as the public spurns beef.

BP and Mobil merge their loss. The company hlames the Germans "conservative" acloss. The company hlames the counting policies.

May

The gas industry regulator, Clare Spottiswoode, sparks out-Kynerner, the Norwegian en-gineering group, pays 1904m for controls for British Gas's domestic bills by an average of £30, but threaten £650m of British Gas's revenues.

Hundreds of famous-name The SFA clears Peter Baring high street shops and thousands of jobs are at risk as the sibility for the collapse of Bar-ings Bank. But il seeks preneur Stephen Hincheliffe crumbles. Mr Hinchcliffe faces legal action by the DTI and possible disqualification as a company director.

Peter Baring appears before Carisberg-Tetley and Lord Ster- MPs to deny charges of incompetence over the £900m lost in the Nick Leeson affair. He tells them: "I do not think we were greedy, stupid or idle."

The flotation of Railtrack chugs out of the sidings, despite Labour attempts at a derail-

lan Lang, president of the Board of Trade, blocks the bid for National Power by the US Southern Company and any hid for PowerGen by pledging to retain his "golden share" in the companies.

Midlands Electricity goes under the hammer to an agreed joint hid by another two US utility groups, Cinergy and GPU. The insurance industry is rocked by the £6bn merger of Royal and Sun Alliance. BT pulls the plug on merger talks with Cable & Wireless.

June

Just as the economy shows signs of stronger growth, the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, unexpectedly decides to cut interest rates. It emerges that the cut, of 0.25 per cent to 5.75 per cent, was against the advice of the Bank of England. The markets take the news badly. Mortgage lenders take no action.

Another trading scandal hits the City as the Japanese Sumitomo Corporation reveals \$1.8bn losses run up by its top copper dealer, Yasuo Hamanaka, who is known as "Mr Five Per Cent." The reputation of the London Metal Exchange is hit.

The nuclear industry is prepared for sale as the Government puts a preliminary price



Ups and downs: 1996 was the year of the consumer spending boom, financial scandals which rocked the City and one of the most boring Budgets on record

of £2bn on British Energy. It Street suffers the first of a seproves much too optimistic. Oftel, the telephones watchdog, plans tough new powers to curb anti-competitive behav-

W H Smith pulls out of its dis-astrous Do It All DIY joint venture with Boots. Selling its 50 per cent stake to its partner costs Smith's £64m. The following day the new chief executive, Bill Cockburn, announces

a restructuring costing £285m. Shares in Wickes, the thirdbiggest DIY chain, are suspended as details emerge of accounting irregularities. Henry Sweetbaum, the £1.2m-a-year boss, resigns, along with the finance director.

July

There are further signs that the economy is starting to simmer. A report forecasts a 10 per cent rise in house prices. Recovery on the high street starts to trickle down to industry and Mr Clarke and Mr George continue to disagree about the right direction for interest rates. All this gives the stock market the jitters and when a surge in payroll figures in the US confirms their nascent boom, Wall

Men making news (from left): Sir Rocco Forte; Peter Young; and Michael Lawrence

ries of violent gyrations. Back home, the new issues market catches a cold, with British Energy falling 10 per cent in first

Takcover activity remains buoyant, with Whitbread snapping up Café Rouge chain Pel-ican for £133m and Hays making a tilt at Salvesen. The bids that never were include Gninness running its slide rule over GrandMet and the aborted merger of Psion and Amstrad.

Despite the strength of the economy, many people feel no safer in their jobs, and for good reason. ICI says it is laying off 2,700; Rolls-Royce puts the mous old engineering name of Parsons on the block, threatening more than 2,000 jobs: C&J Clark, the shoe maker. makes 1,400 redundant; and the Stock Exchange lets 400 go.

August

The silly season becomes the month of the row. Stagecoach causes a rumpus by paying £825m for the rolling stock company Porterbrook, £300m more than management had shelled ont when they bought the husiness from the taxpaver in January. George Simpson has a disagreement over his £10m pay package as successor to Lord Weinstock at GEC.

Tiny Rowland chips in with a tirade against the new regime, at Lonrho after the conglomerate announces plans to float its hotels arm. In the end, the plan is dropped after the company fails to drum up enough institutional support for the sale and a trade buyer, Stakis, is found instead for the Metropole hotels. Thistle Hotels manages to come to the market, although at a rather lower price than had been hoped.

relaxed and tanned from its summer holidays, September hrings more than its fair share of shocks. The biggest comes in the form of a nerdy-looking fund manager from Deutsche Morgan Grenfell called Peter Young, with a penchant for designing rockets and, allegedly, a girl called Sandra. As details emerge of irregularities in his handling of ordinary savers' money, it becomes clear that he has perpetrated one of the biggest financial scandals since Maxwell Deutsche bails out its troublesome British moncy manager, freezes Mr Young s assets and finally sacks him. The Serious Fraud Office launches an inquiry.

September

As the business world returns

British fund managers are left seething by a phinge in the share price of Matthew Clark, the cider maker that had sel out on a spending spree to buy Taunton and Gaymer's and then taken the eccentric marketing route of cutting its advertising hudget. The future of Peter Aikens, the company's chief executive who was paid more than £400,000 to move

house, is thrown into doubt. Thomas the Tank Engine steams to the market, making

October

October is another month of Lottery-style windfalls for a lucky few as the FTSE 100 hreaks through the 4,000 bar-rier. About 100 instant millionaires are created when NatWest buys investment banking boutique Hambro Magan. The three founders of pet retailer Pel City make millions in paper profits in a £150m merger with PetsMart of the US, while the creators of Prism Rail are £27m better off thanks

to a innovative rights issue. Elsewhere, carpetbaggers are out in force to try and cash in on Norwich Union's planned £4.5bn flotation. Even late sunseekers gain an unexpected bonus as the pound reaches its highest level for two years.

But the Chancellor, rather against the spirit of the time. moves to close a tax loophole on special dividends and share buybacks.

One row is cleared up - the

spat between Eurotherm and its chief executive, Claes Hult-

man, who was shown the door

only to be welcomed back again

after institutions demanded the

return of a man they credited

with turning the business round.

Colin "Ned" Kelly, a trader at

Liffe, has a row with a female

colleague and is fined £500 for

abusive language. High street spending booms,

there is a sharp fall in the job-

less rate, house prices push up

inflation and credit card sales

go through the roof.

Takeover activity continues apace. CE Electric of the US launches a hostile £651m offer for Northern Electric, sneaking home amid much acrimony this week, while United News & Media finally lands exhibitions group Blenbeim for £529m. The long-awaited consolidanon of the cable industry sees Mercury, Nynex Cable Comms,

Videotron and Cell Cablemedia join forces in a £5hn merger.

November

The last Budget before the election proves to be a sensation, but not because of its contents. Details of the famous red box's contents are leaked to the Duily Mirror, which declines to publish them. After the Chancellor sits down it becomes clear why, One of the most boring Budgets on record sees the basic rate of income tax reduced by 1p to 23p, petrol raised by 3p a litre, a packet of cigarettes go up by 15p and the cost of a bottle of spirits cut

by 26p a bottle.

The hoped-for blockbuster deal finally arrives in the shape of a £35hn merger between BT and MCl of the US.

In Germany, the £8hn Deutsche Telekom flotation is five times oversubscribed.

Volkswagen sacrifices its production chief, Jose Ignacio Lopez, as the long-running industrial espionage row with General Motors rumbles on. Shares in Eurotunnel fall after a fire in the Channel Tunnei halts rail services between Britain and France.

December

Football comes home to the City in December as barely a day goes by without a club announcing plans to seek a stock market flotation. The starting gun for the stampede is fired after it emerges that the satellile broadcaster BSkyB has started informal talks with leading clubs about the early introduction of pay-per-view television.

The prospect of substantial-ly enhanced television income also sends the value of football clubs such as Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur. which are already quoted on the

Stock Exchange, to new heights.
Also reaching for the skies are Boeing and McDonnell as the two US aircraft makers announce a \$45bn merger that puts the skids under their European rival, Airbus Industrie.

There is drama right up until Christmas Eve in the takeover of Northern Electric by CE Electric, with the US suitor snatching victory by the narrowest of margins after the bid deadline is unexpectedly extended. Elsewhere, three contested hids remain outstanding in the engineering sector alone as the future of Newman Tonks, William Cook and Burnfield hang in the

Compiled by The Independent's City staff

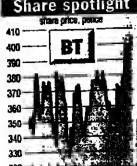
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market report/shares

Thin turnover as skeleton staff rattle around the City Data Bank FTSE 100 -1.5 4091.0 **FTSE 250** +10.0 4470.5 blush in the bizarre trading conditions which are bound to **FISE 350** +0.4 2031.1

SEAQ VOLUME 176.2m shares, 10,892 bargains Gilts Index 94.76

Share spotlight



Shares flirted with a new clos-ing high but lost their festive

prevail on a day sandwiched between the Christmas holiday and the weekend. Not many City men trundled

into their offices. Most firms were content to operate with skeleton staffs and the lack of interest of the securities industry and the investing public in the half-day session was demonstrated by the exceedingly thin turnover. Footsie ended 1.5 points

lower at 4,091 after touching a trading high of 4,102.9. The early flourish was little more than a knee-jerk reaction to a sound overnight display by the Dow Jones Average.

Interest rate worries were cited as the prime influence be-

BT had the distinction of leading the blue chips with a 6p gain to 405p. The high volume of festive calls seemed to be the immediate reason. However BT has been dialling some interesting gains as the market, after early hesitancy. has become increasing receptive to the proposed takeover

of MCI, the US giant. The new charges for mobile telephones and BT's involvement in digital broadcasting have also helped offset the unrelentingly tough stance of the industry regulator. The shares are riding at their highest point for nearly 18 months, having

fallen to 326.5p.

Among other blue chips
BTR continued its revival, up 3.5p to 273.5p, and Allied Domecq, on the rumoured Lehman Brothers buy advice,



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

John Lewis Partnership of-fered support to the view that to 554p. fered support to the view that retailers have enjoyed a

bumper time. JLP said sales in the week ending 14 December were up 5.1 per cent on last year and weekly department store sales a record 5.9 per cent higher. The company expects to beat such a performance by a

'substantial margin" in the last full pre-Christmas week. The JLP evidence helped to ease concerns which have arisen over festive trading. There has been evidence from volume has faltered in the last

stock market reporter of the year

Blacks Leisure, the leisure wear retailer, consolidated its position as the year's top performing share. The price improved 6p to 350.5p, lifting the percentage gain to around 600 per cent. JJB Sports jumped

26p to 290p. The threat of increased mail order competition took the shine from Great Universal Stores. It gave up 8.5p to 606.5p. Sears, which is near to unloading its Freemans mail order side, possibly to Little-woods, rose 1p to 91p.

excitement. The end of the Northern Electric takeover. hattle left the distributors shares up 9p at 646p. Northern is replaced in the FISE 250 index by Mayflower Corporation, a car bodies maker and vehicle conversions group. The two remaining electrical disunbutors moved ahead as they awaited what is seen as the inevitable takeover strike. South-

ern put on 5.5p to 784p and Yorkshire op to 808.5p Burnfield, expected to surrender to the improved Fairey hid, rose 11.5p to 153.5p. Fairey, riding at 697p in the summer, fell a further 18.5p to

Scottish Pride, a dairy coup, jumped 15p to 57.5p 23 he Department of Trade and Industry gave qualified clear-ance to a bid from their bigger rivals. Robert. Wiseman. The

Two computer groups seen as beneficiaries of the millennium computer changeover made headway: DCS improved 22p to 262.5p and Delphi 12.5p to 712.5p. Micro Focus rose 55p to 955p.

Bodycete International,

once big in textiles and now a safety products and packaging group, added 25p to 820p, a peak. The strength stemmed from the success of a £115.5m rights issue. The company, which became disillusioned with the textile industry in 1989, is taking over Brukens of Sweden, one of the largest

heat treatment groups on the Continent with 27 plants. Premier Farnell, the electronic components group, continued to benefit from a planned US sale which should raise \$300m. The shares improved 10p to 749.5p. They have risen 37p since the dis-

☐ The behaviour of Lehman Brothers, the US securities house, over Acorn Computer is intrigiting. In its capacity as a market-maker it has de-clared a 12.98 per cent share

holding, down from 13.5 per cent on Monday. Olivetti, the struggling Italian group, has 31.2 per cent and there is speculation

it wants to get out.

It is unusual for a marketmaker to take such a large stake on its books and Lehman's action could herald corporate developments with ssibly a US strike. Acom held at 195.5p.

Shares of Taylor Nelson, the research group, rose 7.25p to 54.5p, back to their level before a surprise profit

The price fell to around 40p after the warning but has

some quarters that the sales since reclaimed the lost merger creates a business with put on another 2.5p to 452.5p. hind the stock market's hesi-Oils produced a smattering posal was announced last week tancy. Many observers expect increases on both sides of the The debate about Christmas around 80 per cent of the nf modest gains, largely on and are now at their peak. trading moved in favour of the stage of the run in. But with hopes of further takeover JLP so positive Dixons gained more optimistic souls as the Atlantic in the new year. Share Price Data one with a tone-clai telephone can use this service. For s detailed det spendent index, including his portfolio teclity, phone 081 essistance, call our helpline 0171 873 4378 (200em - 500pm). FTSE 100 Index hour by hour. 'Whatever the deal, only pay £16.50 boasts investor. Frequent Traders Club from ShareLink. The second secon £16.50 a trade. It costs only £60 pa plus £6 per quarter. Service and rewards for the active investor. 20 Adequa | Part | TO "- CON THE NO. 30 TO "- ">

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The last 12 mo

tantes lyson

The last 12 months have produced some of the most dramatic events in the history of sport. Here Independent writers recall moments of magic which will live long in the memory

FIVE DAYS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD

9 November

Heroic Holyfield tames Tyson

Evander Holyfield shoul-dered his way through the horde that swarmed and shouted in the ring, and got to where he could look out at us, the people who doubted him and, yes, feared for his

He did not climb like a squirrel onto the ropes, hran-dishing a still-gloved fist, shouting "eat your words", as the young Cassius Clay did af-ter turning the odds upside down against Sonny Liston all those years ago. Holyfield simply held up one hand and

Nohody ever had a hetter right. All hut one of 42 re-porters polled by a Las Vegas newspaper had agreed that Mike Tyson would win easily and quickly.

The image we shared was of Holyfield being bome from the ring on his shield, a noble warrior in one fight too many. A horrid thught was that he might end up in hos-

When Tyson and Holyfield. went to their corners at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas on 11 November, most people considered the contest a mismatch. But before three rounds were completed you could sense that something quite remarkable was going of to happen.

Where Tyson had been ex-pected to hlast through Holyfield's short hooking style, he was being frustrated by hit and hold tactics. And it soon hecame clear that one of the most feared hitters in heavyweight history could not han-

dle a rough contest.
Probably, doubt entered
Holyfield's mind in the fifth when he was staggered by heavy purches. However, the next session altered things dramatically in his favour. A short left sent Tyson over and, when he regained his feet

Augusta, the second Sunday in April. Turning off Washington

Road, you leave behind the

tack and tat of modern Amer-

ica and enter the fantasy land of Augusta National.

Let your imagination run

riot and the script will not

match the drama of events to

come. On the morning of the

final round of the US Masters,

even the dogwood and azaleas

tingle with anticipation. Not this Sunday. The press

room was hard at work. "Greg Norman yesterday buried the

demons of Masters disasters

past - Larry Mize et al - to be-

come, at 41, the oldest first-

time winner of a green

jacket..." For those working

against a five-hour time dif-

ference, the story was already

written. In Australia, it was al-

ready rolling off the presses.

Everyone was unanimous.

Not even the Great White

Tadpole could lose this one

from six in front. "Greg, not even you can muck this one

up," the late lamented Peter Dobereiner told Norman on

Saturday evening. If Dobere-

iner has ascended to a hetter

place, Norman still does not

have the key to the upstairs

champions' locker room at

Angusta.
That afternoon, Norman,

who had equalled the course

record with a 63 in the first

round, took possession of the

record for the higgest lead ever lost in a major championship. His pulled drive at the first hole.

setting up a bogey, may have only cut his advantage over Nick

Faldo from six to five shots, but

n showed the Australian's game

was just a fraction off. At Au-

The course was playing hard

and fast, the landing area for approach shots on the greens

gusta, that is too much.

14 April

to take an eight count, a cut above the corner of his left

eye was leaking blood.

It bled again in the seventh and, after sending Tyson to his corner for examination by a ringside doctor, the referee, Chuck Halpern, warned Holyfield, threatening to deduct a point unless he was more careful.

A curious thing came to me personally at this time. The further the contest went, the more Tyson appeared to shrink physically. By the eighth round, there was a smile on the underdog's face and he began speaking to Tyson, as though utterly con-

fident of victory.

When the bell sounded to end the 10th round, all three official judges had Holyfield so far ahead that Tyson, who staggered back to his corner, could only win by a knock-ont. Thirty seconds into the eleventh, Holyfield knew that he had pulled off one of the higgest upsets in boxing history when Halpern stepped in to end the contest.

To his immense credit Tyson was gracious in defeat. "I want to commend you," he said to Holyfield, "I have the greatest respect for you. I want to shake you hy the

Was it that Tyson had not felt a serious blow to the head since hefore serving three years in prison - none of the four men he had subsequently fought landed a hlow on him - or that he can no longer summon up those formidable powers that had spread terror throughout the heavyweight division? Was it simply that Holyfield fought above himself?

They will fight again to answer those prodding ques-tions - and it will be a hig one.

no more than five square feet (and not necessarily anywhere near the hole). While Norman

went for the flags as usual, Fal-

do finessed his way into the tar-get areas. While the overall

result recalled the third round

of the 1990 Open, Faldo recre-

ated the brilliance of his last

four holes (after he had let a

comfortable lead slip to John Cook) at Muirfield in '92. Ex-

cept he did it for all 1g holes.

from the eighth to the 12th.

Norman's approach spun off the front of the ninth green, his

chip was too strong at the

tenth and he missed from 1g

inches at the next. At the short

12th, his tee shot was sucked into the water off the bank. Two ahead, Faldo produced an

inspired two-iron at the par-five

13th, and when Norman again

found water at the 16th it was

Faldo shot a 67, the best

score of the day, Norman a 78, an 11-shot swing. On the 18th, the adversaries embraced. "I

told him I didn't know what to

say, I just wanted to give him a hug," Faldo said. Norman added: "What he

said brought tears to my eyes.

He's gone way np in my esti-marion." He added: "I played

like shit". Two days later, he went ahead with a party on his yacht, Aussie Rules II. If his

form has not quite recovered then, nor has Faldo's reached

such a peak again. At the time

Faldo said he hoped the day

would be remembered for him winning, but realised that Nor-

man losing would be the story.

Eight months later, Faldo
said: "My final-round 67 is re-

ally being recognised now. It

was one of the best rounds any-

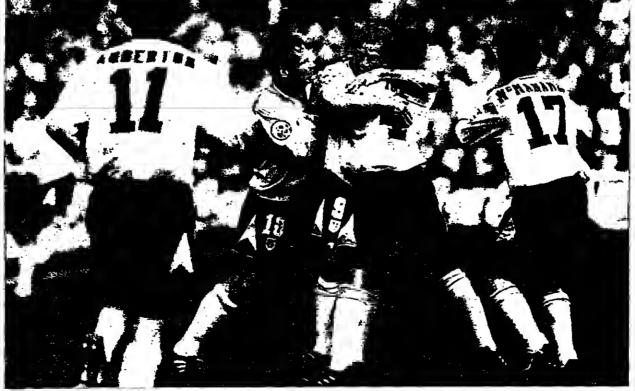
one has ever played in a major

Andy Farrell

Six shots changed hands

Ereat White Shark

Five to savour (clockwise from top left): Evander Holyfield knocks down Mike Tyson on his way to the world heavyweight title; Michael Johnson celebrates victory in the Olympic 200m final; Frankie Dettori leaps into the record books with seven wins at Ascot; England players celebrate an Alan Shearer goal during the 4-1 drubbing of the Dutch at Euro 96; Nick Feldo consoles Greg Norman after the final round of the Masters Photographs: Alisport/PA



18 June

Dutch masters humiliated by rampant England

lt was a magnificent evening for every Englishman, but for one spectator the 4-1 rout of the Dutch was a special night in-deed. Phil Baynes is an English site engineer who was working on a project in the Netherlands. On the afternoon of Tuesday 18 June he flew back to London for the game, returning to work the following day.

"They were full of it," he recalled this week. "Dressed in orange and mouthing off about what they were going to do to us. At the airport they gave out orange scarves to everyone - I declined mine. I asked a few what

"The flight back was a more sombre offair. I had my England shirt on and I was still bubbling. I was humming 'Three Lions'. No-one would meet my eye.

"At work they were all apologetic about qualifying after playing so badly. I then went on site with my shirt on, an England scarf, and with a big red cross and 4-1 written on my white hard hat. I had to rub the 4-1 off though after a big Dutch welder chased me with a hammer."

At this point Baynes, who is still working in the Netherlands and was speaking on the telephone, said he had better go they thought the score would be and a lot said 3-1 or 4-1. I don't think they envisaged it would be ed. "They tell me: 'one win and you go on about it forever'."

tional stadium last week, its land on the Saturday and I backers may have briefly cast match that - but they were even their mind back to 18 June and offered a private vote of thanks

to Terry Venables. Even before the rout began, From welcoming the first, the crowd were in full voice. flag-waving arrivals, to bidding adien to the last, tired but elat-"Three Lions" and the national anthem were belted out with ed groundsman, the old lady of gusto to a sea of red-and-white flags of St George. Then Eng-land played with a style and stadia had rocked as never before. After that the Football Aspanache even their most ardent sociation's vote was settled. "I don't remember anything supporters had not dared hope like it in '66 and there were for. Most, indeed, had merely

It was a memorable night. more people in the ground hoped for a stalemate, knowing when Wembley secured the then," Venables recalled. "It that a draw would send both right to be rebuilt as the new nawas wonderful against Scotteams into the quarter-finals. The Dutch had problems

thought: How are they going to and were not the same team which had been made competition favourites when first drawn with England in December. Edgar Davids had been sent home, Marc Overmars had not arrived, Patrick Kluivert was struggling for fitness. Dennis Bergkamp was unhappy playing at centre-forward. But they were still a very

good team.

ries. A scrappy draw with Switzerland had been followed by an unconvincing win over Scotland. Teddy Sheringham and Darren Anderton were searching for form, Tony Adams was playing in pain.
They had not beaten the Dutch

in five meetings since 1982.
Terry Venables kept faith with the same XI that played the Swiss and Scots but rearranged them into the "Christ-mas tree" with Sheringham and Steve McManaman playing off Alan Shearer. Vindication

Danny Blind brought down Paul Ince after McManaman's run. Shearer, who had already had a shot kicked off the line, buried the penalty. The turning points came five

minutes either side of the break. First David Seaman denied Bergkamp with a splendid reaction save low to his left. Then Sheringham twisted to head in Gascoigne's corner.

Eleven minutes later it was 4-0. Gascoigne's dribble, and Sheringham's immaculately disguised pass, set up Shearer. Then Sheringham pounced after Erwin van der Sar spilled

Anderton's shot. "The atmosphere was in-credible, recalled another in England had their own wor- arrived in the 23rd minute as the crowd, Bob Burgess, who

possibility was still faintly there, even though the American - who runs so upright he seems about to fall over backwards - was ahead. Then, like a spaceship switch

200 metres at the Games; Alberto Juantorena had taken gold at 400 and 800m in 1976; but no one had ever won the 200 and 400. After convincing officials to alter the schedule to allow him a decent shot at both, the 28-year-old Texan seemed the digital clock to see his win-ning time, his expression was almost crozed, 19.32 seconds, to go out of his way to increase the pressure upon himself. a full 0.34sec inside his own

world 200m champion, Johnson had failed to reach the Olympic final after his preparations had been ruined by history of the event had the official record been lowered by more than 0.2sec. Many observers felt the only food poisoning. Yet, after that devastaring experience, here he was again in Atlanta, talking freely about his expectations.

even running in golden shoes. Was this hubris about to be punished by the gods? The first part of his amhition had been accomplished without undue strain three days earlier as he had won the 400m final against a field lacking the injured world record

1 August

n athletics because your heart

Boom, boom, boom, pound-

ing in your chest, as Linford Christic prepares for the 1992

Olympic 100 metres final, as

Jonathan Edwards speeds to-wards the take-off board at the

there was a sense of anticipa-

tion which surpassed that of

any the previous or subse-quent Olympic track sessions. Everything - the evening the Games - seemed to centre on

one man intent upon a historic

chievement: Michael Johnson. Men had won the 100 and

1995 world championships. On I August this year, in the sticky evening heat of Atlanta's Centennial Stadium,

holder Butch Reynolds. But this race was going to be different, due to the presence of Frankie Fredericks, a man in the form of his life. Two weeks before the Olympics had begun, the Namibian - a double silver medallist at the

You know the really big events 1992 Games - had ended Johnson's unbroken sequence of 21 wins over 200m with a

A golden moment

for golden shoes

narrow victory in Oslo.

After being forced to settle for another silver in the 100m. where he had run to within 0.01sec of the world record earlier in the season, there seemed a possibility that Fredericks might just spoil John-son's Olympics,

The gun went. A crowd of 82,000 people produced a deep, gathering roar. Boom, boom, boom, And as the two men completed their turn the

ing to warp speed, Johnson parted company with his fellow athletes and embraced history. When this urbane, quietly spoken man glanced across at

Four years cartier, as the outstanding world record.

World 200m champion, Johnon had failed to reach the chipped 0.06sec of Pietro Mennea's 24-year-old mark of 19,72sec. Never before in the

comparable performance was Bob Beamon's stupendous 1968 Olympic long jump of g.90 metres, which improved the world record by more than ment of the 1996 Olympics.

Fredericks, meanwhile, ran the race of his life to finish in 19.68sec - four metres adrift. "I thought when Michael ran 19.66 it was incredible," Fredericks said. "To run 19.32. I don't know what to say.
There are 82,000 who will.

"I was there."

Seventh heaven 28 Sept for Dettori

The card for the first day of As-cot's Festival meeting, on 28 September, had a distinctly trappy look to it. As the clever trousers with their form books pored over the options on a par-ticularly competitive afternoon, other, smaller, punters around the country had thought of a hetter system. They helped themselves to the bonsai biros of the local betting shops and kept writing the name of Frankie Dettori's mounts on their slips. Seven winners later they helped themselves again from the counter.

There were numerous reports of people wagering in coppers and picking up fldy cheques after the Italian's unique achievement. His efforts made him the only jockey to go through the card (at odds of 25,095-1) at a sevenrace meeting in Britain. Only two men have ever gone through a six-race card.

If this feat had to be achieved, it was almost inevitable that it would gravitate to the man from Milan. His historic moment came just six years to the day after he rode his first Group One winner, on Markofdistinction, and during that time he has made more impression on the sport since a chap called Lester Piggott was in his pomp. One of them looks permanently as if his pet dog has died, the other is close to being annoyingly upbeat all the time without ever quite

managing it.
Dettor's first winner at Ascot was on Wall Street, where, doubtlessly, he will have a growing portfolio as his earnings both in and out of the sport expand. Then came Dif-fident and Mark Of Esteem, in the big race of the day, the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes.

By the time Decorated Hero won the fourth, Dettori was beginning to assist the numerically challenged by holding up his digits to advertise the swelling achievement. The fingers kept flicking up as Fatefully, Lochangel and finally Fujiyama Crest galloped on to the manuscript of the record books.

It hecame as close to bonkers as a crowd at the Royal racecourse can get, and in the middle of them all was a little chap hosing his audience down from an immense champagne bottle. The trademark flying dismount had been heavily employed.

Since Denori day the eponymous hero has barely had time to fit in sleep. Commemorative awards have been arriving by the crateload, his bottom has visited just about every chat-show host's settee - and he has even managed to ride a few more winners.

As for the bookmakers, 28 September 1996 was not the cataclysm they portrayed at the time. That lazy, and pre-dictable, response detailed an occasion of unrecoverable penury. The full scale of this apocalypse was revealed re-cently when Coral announced their profits for the year. Coral did not lose money in

1996. Following the nightmare that was Dettori day, their profits merely dwindled from £17m to just a million pounds less. They say the day cost them £4m, but are not willing to speculate on the free adver-tising or the size of the new influx of victims drawn to the hetting shop. These bookmakers, as much as drama buffs, must thank Frankie Dettori for his unprecedented

Richard Edmondson

had driven up from Somerset, "It was a mixture of shock and delight. All the way up I had con-vinced myself it would be 0-0. We could not believe that we could play that well." The reaction in

the press box was similar. Meanwhile, at Villa Park. Scottish fans watching the match with Switzerland found themselves cheering England's progress. For 16 heady minutes they thought they, too, would

qualify. A late goal from Kluivert put the Scots out but it could not prevent the Netherlands' heavlest defeat for 20 years. "Everything happened exactly as Terry Venables said it would," re-

called Sheringham afterwards.

rish cek verry Ct Lacroix has credentials to kick Quins into shape

CHRIS HEWELL

The United Nations off-shoot commonly known as Harle-quins -or, more correctly in this morrow week. He is unquestionquins - or, more correctly in this multi-cultural and business-conscious age, NEC Harlequins in delerence to the Londoo club's lananese sponsors – grows more exotic by the day. Thierry Lacroix, the most relentlessly accurate goalkicker io last year's World Cup, is about to pitch up at The Stoop via the French rug-

African citadel of Durban. Lacroix, who has agreed in principle to a 30-month deal

by hothed of Dax and the South

is oow waiting for formal clearance from the various governing bodies who still own a piece of him, has been pencilled in for ably a major capture, if only because he will add steel to Quins' notoriously fragile kick-ing game; indeed, he may well do everyone a service by nipping in the bud Will Carling's fledgling career as a marksman. But as Quins may well discover

when they take on the League leaders, Leicester, on home turf today - a game they must win to hreathe new life into their own faltering title ambitions - the

creasingly clear that Bob Dwyer, the Australian World Cup-winming coach who moved to Welford Road during the summer, has succeeded in adding a genuine cutting edge to the Leicester juggernant. By so do-ing, he has made them the team to beat in all three leading com-

petitions, the Courage Champ-

ionship, the Heineken European

Cup and the Pilkington Cup. Not that Dwyer considers the job even half-done. On the contrary, he almost damns his side with faint praise. There are

signing of the season belongs to the domestic pile and favourites something of a departure. But the Tigers. It is becoming in- to beat the champions Toulouse he does not like complacency in in oext weekend's European Oup semi-finals. "We move the ball quite nicely at times and by the end of the season I hope we'll be a reasonable side." he said yesterday. "By the end of next seasoo we may almost be quite good." Calm down, Bob.

As usual with Dwyer, there is some clever psychology going on here. He knows full well that Leicester possess the outstanding pack in English rugby and is even more impressed by their defensive commitment - he acno grand claims and talk of the tually uses the word "outstand-

Don't get carried away.

any shape or form and, with a solid month of crucial matches ahead of him, the comfort zone is on place to be.

"I'm sure that the players would be intensely disappointed if they were to find themselves without a trophy come May," he said. "But I don't want them to think in those terms. The only way to approach the game is to concentrate on improvement, both individual and collective. While I believe there is a lot more dynamism and variety to this side than at the start of the campaign - the ball skills fact that Leicester are on top of ing in that respect, which is are a little better and the con-

fidence higher - we are not yet close to where I want us to be." Dwyer was forced into two late charges yesterday after los-ing his outside-half Rob Liley

and his centre Smart Potter to shoulder injuries. Niall Malone takes over the pivot role while Lean Lloyd moves inside from the left wing to partner the blossoning Will Greenwood in midfield. That allows Rory Underwood the most capped play-er in English lastery, to emerge from the shadows of secondstring moby and Dwyer hopes, to release his pent up frustra-tions on Carling and company.

With the spotlight shring every more brightly on the

South Africa 235 and 164-4 India 100

Allen Donaid give South Africa a stranglehold on the first Test against India in Didtan yes-tertay. Donald speartieading a four-pronged pace attack, took 5 for 40 as India were routed for

100 in 39.1 overs - their lowest

five-day total against the South

It gave South Africa a first-

innings lead of 135, and the

opener Andrew Hudson, who

top-scored with 80 first time

around, and Adam Bacher built

on that with a second-wicket

partnership of 111 as the bome

side closed on 164 for 4 in their

second innings. Hudson (52) batted authoritatively for his

second fifty of the match and

Bacher, on his Test debut, made a composed 55 for South Africa to establish a lead of 299 going

into the third day.
While India had the better of

the first day in dismissing South

Africa for 235, their batsmen

struggled yesterday against a

quartet who took advantage of

a pitch offering pace and bounce. Donald, forced to quit

the recent series in India mid-

way through the second Test due

to a heel injury, bowled with hos-tility to collect his seventh five-

wicket haul at Test level. He was

well supported by both Shain.

Pollock and Brian McMillan.

who took two wickets exich.: 50

than any home-grown players who might just drag England out of the doldrums, it is fitting that François Pienaar should make his debut for Saracens against the hapless strugglers from Orrell today.

South Africa's former captain dumped by Andre Markgraaff, the Springbok coach, to the astonishment of Nelson Mandela, no less - teams up with Michael Lynagh, Philippe Sel-la and sundry Celts in a side that might, a year or so ago, have been fielded by the Barbarians.

Of far more interest to national selectors, both from Wales and those in the early

Donald blazes

through India

international brigade rather stages of piecing together a Li-than any home-grown players ons squad for the summer series in Pienaar's backyard, is a possible return of Gwyn Jones the outstanding openside flank or in the four home countries. in today's match between Car-

diff and Pontypridd.
Jones, a Llanelli player last season, dislocated his shoulder during the last Welsh tour of Australia and has yet to play for his new club, but if he comes back with a bang this afternoon - Cardiff had made no final decision yesterday - it will be of more obvious benefit to British rugby than anything Lacroix or any other foreign import might

McGrath has Lara's measure

Cricket TONY COZIER

reports from Melbourne Australia 219 West Indies 233-9

With their tall, lean, mean fast bowler Glenn McGrath again to the fore, Australia regained the initiative from B tentative West Indies on the second day of the Third Test yesterday. Hardly de-livering a loose ball in 21 overs of sustained pace and accuracy in the day, McGrath dictated terms from the start to batsmen overly concerned with carefully building the kind of lead the West Indies require to win the match and keep their interest in the series alive. He finished with 5 for 40 from 27 overs.

The West Indies ended the day 14 runs ahead and, as they have to bat last on a pitch already showing signs of wear after two cloudless days of sunshine, they face an enormous challenge simply to remain in contention.

Among McGrath's victims was Brian Lara for the fourth time in five innings in the series, a sequence that prompted the bowler's oot unrealistic assessment afterwards that he had got the celebrated left-hander's

Lara was caught at second slip for two, cutting at the 18th hall he faced. It was the third successive time he had fallen for a single figure score to Mc-Grath, and was a significant handican to the West Indies' suspect hatting that had demoted him in the order to No 4 in the hope that he would have the cushion of a reasonable start to regain lost touch.

"The answer is to keep it tight at him," McGrath said, "He

likes to play his shots and he'll

give you a chance."

From over the wicket or round, that has been the Australian plan to Lara since the 1995 series in the Caribbean, when they regained the Frank Worrell Trophy after 18 years in West Indies' possession. In his last 11 innings against Australia, Lara has managed only

one half-century.

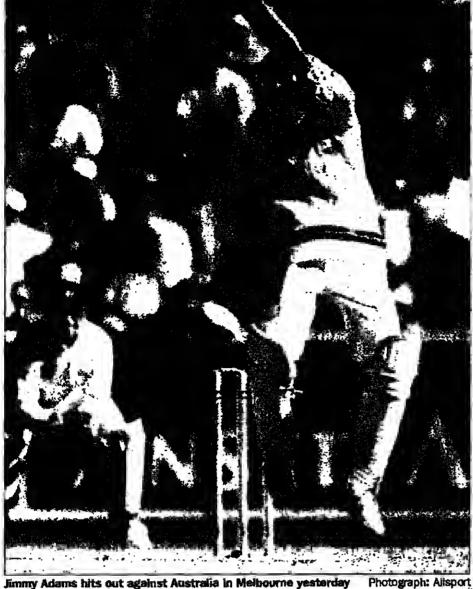
McGrath's efforts made up for the loss of his fellow pace-man, Jasoo Gillespie, who strained a side muscle during his second over yesterday. He will not bowl again in this Test and is doubtful for his bometown Test in Adelaide oo 25 January.

The pattern for the day was established in the first hour when the overnight pair, the left-banders Robert Samuels and Shivnarine Chanderpaul, were restricted by the miserly bowling and sharp fielding to 21 runs off 15 overs. Samuels managed only two

scoring strokes from his 57 halls before he edged his drive off Shane Warne to be smartly taken, low to his left at slip, by Lara followed five mioutes

before lunch and, when Carl Hooper ran himself out soon afterwards and Chanderpaul's untroubled but pedestrian 58 was ended after three and a half hours by McGrath's left-handed return catch, the West Indies were tottering at 107 for 5. It took a cricketer of oo par-

ticular repute but a wholebearted, uncomplicated attitude to free them from their selfimposed shackles, but Junior Murray's brave counter-attack and his partnership of 90 for the sixth wicket with Jimmy Adams came too late for a complete



Courtney Browne for the first time in a Test since the series against England in the summer of 1995, immediately stamped his authority on proceedings, crashing an off-driven boundary off McGrath as fiercely as any as struck in the in and hoisting Warne over long-

on for another four. Boosted by his swashbuckling 86 in the World Series one-day international against Pakistan last week, Murray attacked with the same positive effect and,

Murray, back in place of with Adams his steady partner, ourtney Browne for the first soon put bowling and fielding that had seemed so restraining into perspective.

He came unstuck against the second oew ball when his compulsion to book led to his dismissal from a top-edged stroke McGrath. Adams remained to the end,

unbeaten 54 after a dogged vigil of three and three quarter hours but others kept falling and Australia ended the day in the happier position.

Second day: Australia won toos AUSTRALIA -- Prot Indiago 218 (C S Bignet 82; C E L Ambrost 5-56),

C E L Ambrose b Warne 8 K C G Barijarvich b Reifles 11 Y C A Whish not cut 22 Baryan (fb 7 64 mb3) 14 Testet (fbr 9, 1.09 press) 252 Fell (centre 2-52, 3-71, 4-85, 5-107, 6-197, 7-197, 8-215, 9-230, 8-215, 9-230, 8-215, 9-230, 8-215, 9-230, 8-215, 9-230, 8-215, 9-230, 8-215, 9-230, 8-215, 9-230, 8-215, 9-230, 8-215, 9-230, 8-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25, 9-25,

Surrey's Ben Hollioake was the lone star as England faltered

der-19 Test in Lahore yesterday. Having bowled out Pakistan England to build on the earlier successes of the three-match series, which they lead 1-0. Despite a promising start, the batsmen failed to dominate the seamer Abdul Razzaq or the leg-spinner Imran Tahir and

third-lowest Test total compiled at Kingsmead Cricket Ground, after Australia's 75 and South Africa's 99 in the same match during the 1949-50 series.

No Indian batsman reached 20 as they were dismissed for the

Saurav Ganguly had the highest score of 16 but the key wicket was that of the Indian captain Sachin Tendulkar, From successive deliveries he dispatched Donald to the boundary but next ball he was compre hensively beaten by a rapid

the gate for 15. Second day, finds wor total 80UTH AFRICA - Frent healings 235 (A Hud-son 80; B K V Present 5-80) RRDA - Present 5-80 (Overright 2-40)

off-center to be bowled through

Divergint 2-0:

V Rathore c Healain b Doneld

W Raman b Pollock

S Gangaly c Klusener b Pollock

S R Terniuliste b Doneld

M Athenucidin e Bacher b McMillian

R S Dravid Inv-b McMillian

R S Dravid Inv-b McMillian

R M R Monga & Richardson b Doneld

A Numble not bis: 10-10-10-10

D Johnson c Bacher b Doneld

B K V Prasad E Richardson b Missener

Britone (64 63 nb7/2)

Total (for 4)
Falt: 1-4, 2-115, 3-120, 4-120.
To bat: B M, McMallan, S M Politics, Richardson, L. Russener, A A Donald.

Hollioake fights on

were 167 for 7 at the close. It was left to Hollioake, who had bowled superbly for figures of 6 for 40 off 22.4 overs, to show against Pakistan in the third Unthe specialist batsmen the way.

The day had started well for Hollioake - he claimed the Pakistan captain Ahmar Saced for 77, then mopped up the tail with two wickets in two balls. THERD UNIDER-19 TEST (Luhone, second day): Prieston 237 (S Asser 77; B Hollowie 6-40); England 167 for 7 (B Hollowie 44 no).

Nevill on look-out for talent

Hockey BILL COLWILL

The traditional youth tournaments hold the stage this weekend, with pride of place going to the women's Under-21 ter-

Keynes National Hockey Stadium from today until Monday. With England having quali-fied for the Junior World Cup to be beld in Korea in September, this year's Under-21 competition will be of particular mportance. It will give coach Mary Nevill an early opportunity to assess potential players under tournament conditions, although the weather in Seoul is guaranteed to be much more favourable for hockey than that

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I Appete

ritorial event at the Miltoo

expected at Milton Keynes. The Midlands, who won all three titles last year, can again be expected to dominate, with the Ofton chib likely to make an impact. The club, runaway leaders in Division One of the National League, supplies four top players for the Midlands Under-21 – the Wright sisters, Licilia and Sally, along with Kerry Moore and their captain Jennie Bimson, There are three more in the Under-18s, including Gabi Godwin, who last year white bildying for her school, King Edward VII Birmingham, scored the first goal at the Na-

tional Stadium. The Men's Uoder-17 and Under-15 tournament at Bristol will feature a number of players who have already made their debuts in the National

Jody Smith.

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QUOTES We murdered them and they

know it. We flippin' hammered them. David Lloyd, the ringland coach, after his team's draw with Zimbabwe in the first

When you are trying to save a Test match, you try every trick in the book, Alistair Cumpbell, the Zmbebwe captain, defends his country's negative bowling. I can't explain why our batsmen kept getting themselves out, Lloyd after England's batting collapse on the first dayof the second Test.

We are always protected by 10 bodyguards. Boris Backer, the German tennis player, who may leave his country to live in the United States because of feers for his family's

at would doubt the record will be broken in the modern game. Peter Shifton, who made his 1,000th Football League appearance when he played for Leyton Orient against Brighton last Sunday.

English players have a natural gift for running but, as for explosiveness and reaction time, they can't match the liaiians. In soccer-you have to do more than run. Middlesbrough's Fabrizio Ravanelli.

TODAY'S NUMBER

All 18 members of the Nigerian football squad announced in Lagos yesterday for next month's World Cup qualifier in Kenya ere with oversea clubs: 16 from Europe, one from the United States and one from South Africa.

Football

Asaries not an pools ocupons; 3.0 unless stated; subject to pitch inspections
GM VAUDIHALL CONFERENCE: Altrinoisan y Bromsgove Rovers; Famborough/
y Doucy; Gatestrand y Helifax; Kidderminster Herners y Bath City; Northwich Victors y Moreosamber; Southport y Hednesford; Stalyhidge Cartie y Rushden & Damonde; Stalyhidge Cartie y Rushden & Welling; Wolard V Unstand Perment Whyseleste y Berkhernstad Kown, Second Division: Barkerg y Challant & Peter, Metropolitan Police y Chellant Welling y Esgwan. Third Division:

Cheshum; Wembley v Edgwere. Third Divi-sion: Epocy: & Ewell v Wingste & Frichley. stocc Epsom & Evell v Wingste & Frichley. LINISPOND LEAGUE Presider Division: Bamber Bridge v Blyth Sperture; Bathor Bridge v Blyth Sperture; Bathor Auckland v Barnor; Scenon Utd v Spenny-mon; Chorley v Buston; Frickley v Alfreton Town; Gusseldy v Emby; Knowley v Gains-borough; Lancastor v Marine; Leek Town v Cohyni Bay; Runcom v Accumpton Stanley; Winsland Utd v Hyde Utd. First Divisions: Bradford Park Avenue v Martock Town; Con-great Mervood Town v Lincoln United; Great Mervood Town v Lincoln United; Great Mervood Town v Leigh; Netherleide v Fibron; Raddilfe Borough v Wernington Town; Stockstudies PS: v Ankhorn United; Whitely Bay v Herrogets Town; Workington v Atheron Lin, Worksop Town v Fassley Cable. DR MARTENS LEAGUE Presider Division;

Whitely Bay v Harrington Town: Workington v Athenton LR: Workington Town: v Fastley Calloc. DR MARTENS LEAGUE Preside Divisions Athensone v Glouvester City; Baldock, Town v Galaxesand & Northinet; Cambridge City v Astriford Town; Chainslood v Sudbury Bown; Christmiann v Numestord v Sudbury Bown v Burson; Dorthester v Hastings; Greeley Rows v Vings Lynn; Methyr Tyddi v Halestown Town; Stitinghoume v Salisbury; Wordster Cityv Newport AFC. Middand Divisions Bealworth Ust v Reseton Town; Dorthey Town v Solithut; Buestnen Ust v Bitston Town; Hindeley Town v Garatham Town; Moore Green v Radditch Ust; Paget Rangess v Shepshed Dynamo; Bacing Club Warwick; v Rounds Town; Potther Town v Solithon; Southers Divisions Condended Town v Rowbridge Town; Carlosses v Fareham Town; Clescoon Town v Bestings; Derford v Buckingham Town; Fisher Athletic v Wite; Fleet v Margate; Havent v Erith & Belweder; Newport IsW Weston-year Marc; St Leonards Stammort; Winney v Town get v Hostings.

Division: Arundel v Southwald; Hallsham Town v Weit; Hassocia v Horsham; Mile Oak V Langrey Sports; Calescod v Persenaven 8. Telscombe; Pagham v Burgass Hill Town; Portfield v Three Bridges; Saithean United V Ringner; Shortham v Bustboume Town; Whitelawk v Selesy.

Whitehewk v Selsey,
UNLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE
Premier Divisions Bourne v Cogenhoe; Desborough v Boston Your; Eynesbury v Kempstrut Ford Sports v Weelingborough; Hobesch
v Wootten; Long Bucketov v St. Ness; Potton
v Minrices Bisclottone; Speiding v Northampton Sportcer; Stanford v Nowport Pagnell;
Stotloid v Stewer's & Lloyds Corby,
SCREWFIX DEEST LEAGUE Premier Divisions Bideford v Towngton; Crispperham
Town v Bridgor.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Pre-MORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Pre-mier Division: Denety v Selty; Glass-houghton Welfare v Sheffield; Hellem v Amold Town; Hatfield Main v Ossett Albion;

Hucknell Town v Annthorpe Welfers; Liversedge v Ashfield United; North Fearitry v Behar Rowr, Ower, Town v Matthy Mit; Pickering v Brigg Theology v Pontehact.
NORTH WEST COUNTES LEAGUE First.

MORTH WEST COUNTES LEAGUE First Division: Blackpool Rovers v Boode; Bursough v Rossendule: Ditheron v Nertwich: Holker Old Boys v Chaddernor; Rotagrove v Estwood Harnley; Mossley v Atherton Collectes; Newcastis from v Pernitt; Prescot Cables v Naine Road; Salford City v Derwen; Tuefford v St Hellen's Town; Vauchalf am v Glossop North End.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE BAT Sports v Lymingtor; Bernerbo Heath Hasteguins v Lestingh; Eset Cowes Vics v Romety; Gosport v Brothershurst; Petersfield v Aerostuchieus; Portsmouth Relv Windoms; Ryde Sports v Bostnershurst; Trestman v Cowes Sports; Windomstrath v Tottlan.

JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Di-

Cowet Sports: Whitchurch v Totton.
JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Divisione Bury Town v Harwich & Perfector.
Clacton Town v Stowmarket Town: Folkstown v Lovestoft Town: Gorlaston v Hallandd
Town: March v Hadioigh United: Newmarlest Town v Diss Town; Sudbury Wanderersv Sohem Town Rangers; Tiptree Utd v Wisbech Town; Warboys Town v Great Yampush
Town; Warboys Town v Great Yampush
Town; Warboys Town v Great Yampush
Town; Warboys Town v Great Yampush TOWIT, Whosham v Woodbridge Town.

WITERLINK EXPRESS MEDILARD ALLIANCE Elizanish from v Stapenhill: Boldmere St. Michaele v Berwelf; Bridgmorth v
Stratford Towns (Creasebown v Shahm); Helesowen Herriess v Sandwelf Borough; Hinchley Atheole v Rotahore Town; Pedian't Wile v
Krypengey Victoris; Rocestor v Blakenell.

FEDERATION BREWERTY MORTHERNI
LEAGUE First Division: Bedington Teniers v Shidon; Bilanghern Symbonia v Row
Newscoole; Dungton Federation v Tow Law
Town; Custem City v Cheates—Is Street; Essington v Murtor; Morpeth Town v Stockon;
South Shelds v Guistonough Town; West
Auckland v Seshern Red Shar; Whichten
v Crook Town.

WENSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE First Di-

v Crock Town.

Whistohiland NENT LEAGUE First Division: Bederthern Town v Herne Bay, Canterbury City v Furness; Cray Wanderers v
Remegher, Folkestone Invictor v Contribuers,
Greenwich Borough v Chatham Town;
Hythe Unstad v Deel Town; Thamesmead
Town v Crockenhilt; Turchnidge Wells v
Stade Green; Welstable Town v Shappey
United; Woolmich Town v Faversham Town,
PRESS & JOUFBIAL HIGHLAND LEAGUEBuckue Thistile v Deveronsatio: Clach-

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE
Bucke Thistle v Deverancese; Clachneouddin v Fort William, Cove Ranges v
Hurtly, Keith v Rothes: Lossismouth v Elgin Day, Neim County v Fores Mechanos;
Peterhead v Fraschungt; Wick Academy v
Brore Ranges.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Fisc;
Briton Ferry v Briton Vale: Caemarton Town
v Hofyweit; Corney v Mentoun; Curriberar v
Cernaes Bay; Inter Cable-Rel Candif v
Weishpool (2.30); Portamadog v Barry Town;
Rhyl v Caersws; Ton Petrar v Bangor Chy.
RISSH LEAGUE COCA-COLA. FLOOLIT
CUP First round first leg: Ballyclare v Linfield; Ballymera v Glerators; Bangor v Artis;
Carrick v Glerators; Distriery v Critinn/Be;
Larm v Clusseers; Newy v Coleratine;
Omagh Town v Portadown.

HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE OF RELAND
Presider Divisions: Fron Herps v Shebourne
(7.77). Store Bresser. Premier Division: Firm Harps v Shelbourne (7.30); Sligo Rovers v Derry City (7.30).

Rugby League SEA CUT CHALLENGE CUP First round: Mayfield v Ecoles (2.0); Wigen St Audes v Waten Rose BR (2.0); Wigen St Pemcles v Hei-ten Simms Cross 2.30); Saddeworth v El-

WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE tenborough (2.30); Deverbury Moor v Upton & Pricitiey (2.0); Oversian v Hansinghan (2.0).

Rugby Union

3.0 unless state?

OUGRAGE CYURS CRUAMPONSHE Nedonal Luangia Ower Harlequins y Leicesser (2.15); Logion Itah y West Harlequon;
Saracers y Orael; Waspe y Northempton;
for Loftus Road). Retional League Two:
Notingsam y Bedford; Richmond y Coventy; Rotherham y Bedford; Region Three;
Riche y Leede (2.15); Havant y Harrogate (2.30); Lorepool St. Helens y Excer
(2.30); Lorepool St. Helens y Excer
(2.30); Lorepool St. Helens y Excer
(2.30); Lorepool St. Helens y Excer
(2.30); Lorepool St. Helens y Excer
(2.30); Lorepool St. Helens y Excer
(2.30); Maridonal Langua Four
North; Aspatis y Wordster (2.15) (st Bescon Hill School; Herschul v Kandid (2.30); Sandal y Lichfeel (2.15); Stourbindge y Presson
Grasshoppers (2.30); Winningsun Park y
Barmagham and Solibuit (2.30), National
League Four Southe Cambridgy (2.30);
Tabard y High Wycombe (2.30); WestonSerse West Profiles Postgonad Asiesers
y Pymount; North Waishem y Barry Hill.
SMALEC CUP Fifth round: Blackwood y
Hirvaun (2.30).

Hirwaun (2.30).
WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE First Division:
Bridgend v Neonthy (2.30); Candiff v Pontypridd (2.30); Disnietre v Caerphilip (2.30);
Neoth v Lenneth (2.30); Newtondigs v Ebbw
Valie (2.30); Newton't v Suansela (2.30),
Second Division: Aberavon v UWC
Cardiff Intel (2.30); Aberaillery v (Isnidovery
(2.30); Cross Keys v Bornymeen (2.30);
Maesting v Ystradigolaks (2.30); Portopool v Abersynon (2.30); South Wales Police
V Blackwood (2.30).

v Blackwood (2.30).

CLUB MARCHES: Ayr v Wightowishes (2.0);
Boroughstulic v Edinburgh Wanderess (2.0);
East Nilbride v Currie (2.0); Fornester FP v
Constorphine (2.0); Glasgow HK v KII.
mamock (2.0); Gale v Steveris Metrille
FP (2.0); Glasgow Acads v Metrose (2.0);
Glasgow Southern v West of Souternd (2.0);
Glasgow Southernd v West of

Rockey RE HOLLAND MEMORIAL MATCH: Cheem v President's XI (12.0) (at L7 Ground, Cheerd.

HA UNDER-17 AND UNDER-15 DIVI-SIGNAL TOURNAMENT (10.0-5.0) (at Clifton College and University of West of England grounds, Bristol). CHISBOD GROUNS, ERSOD,
AEWHA KRONERS I FERRITORIAL TOURNAMENT: East v Midlands (9.30); South
v West (21.30); North v East (1.30) (at
Million Mynes Sandarm).
AEWHA URIDER-18 AND UNDER-18
TOURNAMENTS (1.30-6.0) (at Million
Remes Cult, Wavehand).

Basketball BUDWESSER LEAGUE Derby v Lacester (7.30); Worthing v Newcastle (8.0). NATIONAL LEAGUE First Division Men; Guidford v Centil.

12.7

Two days into last year's tournament the icy weather stopped play, with the Midlands Again they are likely to be to the fore but the dark horses for the senior title could be the South West, coached by Teddington's John Barrett, who include Reading's Jonny Loose and Surbiton's

SUPERLEAGUE: Bracknell Boos y Manchester Storm (6.0); Sheffield Stoelers y Nottlingham Panthers (6.40).

PRICHIERS LEASUE: Peterborough Pirates v Guildford Flames (5.30); Slough Jets v Medway Bears. (6.3); Solihuli Blaze v Medway Bears. (6.3); Swindon locLords v Telford Tigers (5.30). NORTHERN PREMIER: Costlereagh

Other sports ATRILETICS: Bupit Cross-country International Durham).
SNQOPUSIT: Dr Mesteris European League (Diamond Centre, inhibit phonough).

TOMORROW Football

FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE Premier Di-visions Bohesniers v Home Perm; Eventon (3.15); Cork City v St Patriciss Ath (2.0); UCD v Bray Wanderers (3.15).

Rugby League France McCles: Hull v York (3.0); Old-ham v Swinton (3.0). Rugby Union

SRU INTER DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP-Caledonis v Edinburgh (2.30) (at Murray-field); Glasgow v Scottish Borders (2.0) (at New Anniesland). COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP Na-tional League One: Bristol v Gloucester; Sale v Bath.

HA UNDER-17 AND UNDER-15 DIVI-SIONAL TOURNAMENT: (10.0-5.0) (at Offen College and University of West of Eng-land grounds, Bristol). mand grounds. Pristol.
AEWHA UNDER-21. TERRITORIAL TOURNA-MENT: South v Midlands (9.30; West v North (11.30; East v South (1.30); Midlands v North (3.30) (at Million Highes Stadius). AEWHA UNDER-18 AND UNDER-16 TOUR-NAMENTS: (11.30-6.0) (at Million Koynes Chub. Woughton).

Beskethalt

BLOWEISER LEAGUE: Birmingham v Thomes Valley (7.0); Chester v Worthing (6.0); Manchester v Derby (7.0); Sheffield v Leopards (5.30).

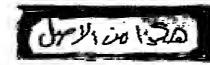
ice bockey SUPERLEAGUE: Notinghern Panthers v Newcaste Cobras (7.0).

PREMIER LEAGUE: Guidford Flames v Slough Jess (6.0); Kingston Hawks v Soli-hull Blaze (6.45); Medway Beers v Swin-don loctods (5.15); Telford Tigers v Peterborough Pirates (5.30).

NORTHERN PREMIER: Whitley Warnors v Blackburn Hawks (6.0).

Other sports DARTS: WDC World Championship (Pur. Detr., CARRON.

SNOCKER: Dr Martens European League
(Marrand Centre, Inthlingborough).



A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH



Irish celebrate a Merry Christmas

It may have been that the fair cit-izens of Fishguard, Anglescy and Barrow-in-Furness have begun to hear sniggering coming from over the water in the last few days. While Britain's racing has been locked into cold storage, Ireland (which is constantly reminded about its shabby weather) has been going about its business quite normally.

Neither has the fare over the Irish Sea been unpalatable fodder. The Leopardstown Christmas festival has already witnessed the rehabilitation of the natioo's favourite racehorse, Danoli, and yesterday there was another potential Cheltenham parade at the course that was modelled on Sandown and mercifully has not been brought up to date with introduction of frost.

Wheo Santa packed his sleigh be clearly left just about all the baggage space for Richard Dunwoody, who fol-lowed up his win in the King George VI Chase with victory on Merry Gale at the Dublin track. Jim Dreaper's gelding has taken some time to return to the intimidating opponent he was two seasons ago, but the trainer attributes this to a prolonged recuperation from a breathing operation. "He was hobdayed as a two-year-old and gradually tissue decay set in in on his larynx," Dreaper said, "So the vet had to cut away the bad tissue and tie back the rest. The horse still can't sing but hope-

fully he can breathe better." Merry Gale's win came at the main expense of the Queen Mother Champion chaser, Kla-iroo Davis, whose Cheltenham

Frost prevails

Musselburgh and Southwell were the only meetings yesterday to beat the frost. Leicester and Chepsiow had already been called off and yesterday, Kempion's fixture and Wetherby's meeting quickly followed suit. Tomorrow's scheduled meetings at Huntingdon, Newbury and Folkestone succumbed to the weather yesterday.

RESULTS

MRISSEL HURCH

12.35: 1. ROSSEL (A Dobbin) 4-9 fav; 2. Honeywcholog 4-1; 3. Noir Espett 25-; ran. 3, 1%. (P Montetti, Rosewell). 1 £3.50; £1.10, £1.20, £3.30, Duel Form £2.20. Computer Straight Forecast: £2.63. Tito: £14.30. 1.05: 1. BILLIE CHARM (R Garden 9-4: 2

1.36: 1. SMOLENSK (M Moloney) 7-4 fev; 2. Chester 14-1; 3. Little Redwing 50-1, 10 ran, 11, 4. U Berry, Cockerten). Tute; 52.30; £1.30, £2.20, £3.30. DF: £32.30. CSP. £24.45, Tito: £41.10. Non Rumen Cette mma. 2.05: 1. TRUMP (D Parker) 6-5 fax; 2. D'Ar-

bley Street 8-1; 3, Westerdalls 7-2, 5 red. 4, 1½, (C Parker, Lockerble), Tete: £2.00; £1.50, £1.90, DF: £3.10, CSF: £8.08, NR:

fav. 7 rate. 1/4, 1. () Moore, Darlington). Total: £5.10: £2.00, £7.10, DF: £62.40, CSF: £50.03. Tricage £123.02. NR: Judical Field. ESO, OS. Tricast: £123, OZ. MR: Judical Field, 3.15: 1. LORD LAMB (P Niver) 1-4 5v; 2. Nutty Solera 8-1; 3. Selem Beech 16-1. 6 ran. 3, 9. (Mrs. M. Reveley, Selfburn). Totas: £1.30: £1.10. £1.70. £1.40. £1.70. £1.60. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1.70. £1

Place 6: £63.16, Place 6: £57.02.

SOUTHWELL

12.15: 1. CATS BOTTOM (/ Quinn) 6-1:
2. Indiahra 4-1: 3. In Good Falth 14-1: 11.

ran. 11-4 fav Three Arch Bridge (44th. 2, ½.
(A Newcombe, Barnetaple). Tota: £5.90;
£2.20, £2.30, £3.90. DF. £15.00. CSF:
£2.869. Tricest: £288.19. Tric: £64.50.

12.482: 1. JAY-OWE-TWO (A Cultural)
7-4 fav; 2. Paym 8-1: 3. Mengle, Fizz 9-1: 2

ran. 3. 3. R Whitzler; Wedfreid). Tota: £2.20;
£1.10, £2.40, £1.70. DF: £13.70. CSF:
£36.78. Tric: £18.90.

1.15: 1. KALAR (A Cultural) 13-2: 2.

Craigle Boy 9-2; 3. Boold Aristocent 7-2; fav. 5 ran. 7-2; ft we finder Milady. 1½. rk.
(D Chapman, York). Tota: £5.30; £2.10,
£1.30, £1.70. DF: £5.20. CSF: £34.12. Thtest: £110.51. Tric: £23.90.

A. A.

Cast: £110.51. Trio: £23.90.

1.46: 1. ALBAHA LLQuirul 5-4 faz; 2. Royal Lagend 7-2: 3. Hormpipe 10-1. 7 faz. 17, 2%. (J Banks, Newmarket). Totas: £2.20; £1.10, £3.20. DF: £4.20. CSF: £6.15.

£1.10, £3.20. DP: £4.20. CSP: £6.15.
2. Card Again 16-1; 3. Rieky Th 10-1: 13 tats. 7-2 tav 7onta. 12, nt. () Eyrs, Thirsty. Tota: £7.90; £2.10, £3.70. £3.30. DF: £35.50. CSP: £103.48. Therest: £1,035.88. Inc. £200.40.
2.46: 1. FAST SPIN (A Culteria) 5-2; 2. Chancetown Figure 11-2; 3. Physiols 5-2. B ras., 2-1 tav Serieta Swengs (Stn. 5, 3. († Barron, Thirsty, Tota: £3.70; £2.30, £1.10. DF: £10.60. CSP: £3.4.69.
3.18: 1. SUEVENAMON () Quinn) 5-2 tax;

£10.80. CSF: £14.69.
3.18: 1, SLEVENNAMON () Quinn) 5-2 text.
3.18: 1, SLEVENNAMON () Quinn) 5-2 text.
3.18: 1, SLEVENNAMON () Quinn) 5-2 text.
6-1.1: res. 5, 2 () Benies, Newmarket). Toke:
65.30: £2.10. £1.20. £2.30. DF: £12.70.
65F: £12.33. Tricast: £45.74. This £10.50.
Place 6: £155.87. Place 6: £51.68.

LEOPARDSTOWN 12.25: 1, FERN FIELDS () Browne) 14-1: 2. Cento 3-1 for: 3, Lough Stanta 6-1, 15 ras, srit-nd, 3¹/7 Tota: £21_20; £5.80, £1.80, £1.90. Reverse: £45,40. CSF: £86_38, NRs: Grimes, Lady Patrice, Spirit Pages 18-18-18-18-18

12.55; 1. MILTONFIELD (C O'Dwyer) 3-1

ter; 2. Collen Leader 21: 1: 3. Casey June 6-1. 15 ran, Ind. 7. Yote: £3.70; £2.00, £7.30, £2.60. Reverse; £5.00, CSF; £42.30. Incast: £253.76.

1.26: 1. MERRY GALE (R Durwoody) 5-4; 2. Nation Davis 4-5 fav; 3. Fiftyseven-channels 8-1. 5 ran. 8, 13. Tote: £2.30; £1.80, £1.10. Reverse Foracas: £2.00. CSF: 2.00: 1. ISTABRAQ (C F Sean) 3-10 fav 2. Paint is 100-30; S. Celphi Lodge 33-1. 5 mm. 5/s. 1. Tobi: £1.30; £1.10, £1.60. Riverse: £1.60, CSP: £1.93, NR: Une De Pair.

2.38: 1. NEW CO (C O'Dwyor) 11-4 fav. 2. Wysde Hide 5-1; 3. Time For A Run 6-1; 4. Rock Rev 20-1: 17 map. 1, 7. Total: £3.90; £1.80, £2.60, £2.20, £4.30. Reverse: £29.90, CSP: £29.10. Tricast: £130.60. 3.10: 1. SURGIARE (C O'Duyer) 4-1; 2. Bose Doyle 3-1: 3. Humbel 6-11 fev. 12 cm. 2, 6, robe: £7,70: £2.20, £1.30, £1.30. Reverse: £10.80. CSF: £18.33.

440. 1. SHANNON GAIL: (Mr G Ellott)
9-4; 2. Strontiam 2-1 fay; 3. Sore Sov; 7-2,
7 ran, ½ 9. Toto; £4.30; £2.20, £1.80, Reverse: £6.70. CSF; £8.49. After a stavents'
(DOUR: the relactions conscioned unchanned 2.20 EAGLE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 added 1m 100yds 504030 HOLDERS HILL (417) LL Menghar 4 9 0 ... 406022 AGENT (47) (8F) J L Spe 3 8 13

Richard Edmondson reports on the rich quality of competition at Leopardstown

exploits have not earned him any the Festival's Cheltenham Gold preferential treatment if Francis Woods' meaty smacks on the way into the home straight were any evidence. Klairon Davis has now failed on his first three starts this season, but as he was asked to give Merry Gale 15lb he hardly returned to booing.

There was also the opportu-nity for Istabraq to display why be is such a strong fancy to emulate his stablemate Urubande and capture the Sun Alliance Hurdle at the Festival. With the four-year-old's pedigree - he is by Sadler's Wells ont of Betty's

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Quango (Newcastle 3.30) NB: Thursday Night (Newcastle 2.30)

Secret, the mother of the 1984 Derby winner, Secreto - he should be answering the front door at a breeding deo dressed in a smoking jacket. There is one thing that stops him achieving this, however, possibly even two, and they are both missing.

Istabraq oo longer runs around in the bloe colours of Hamdan Al Maktoum for John Gosden, but be is oot making a bad fist of his oew career with Aidan O'Brien and does not appear to resent the surgery that bas been performed oo him. The gelding has probably had harder workouts on the Limekilns than yesterday's race. There was also a qualifier for

12.35 Phon Gale

1.05 Noble Thyric

2.05 Antapoura

1.35 Dorans Pride

Card Final, which are always intriguing contests for attempting to find the one horse out of 30 that is actually trying. Milton-field, the Irish Cesarewitch winner, was handled so tenderly by Conor O'Dwyer here that it looked a blatant "not-off". But then be came through and won. Leopardstown's feast con-

tinues this afternoon with four televised races, including one which will tell us whether Ton Doran was bonkers to resist a bid of £300,000 for his novice chaser, Dorans Pride, earlier this month. The money race is the £50,000 Ericsson Chase, which is rather less compelling now that the Gold Cup winner, Imperial Call, is a non-runner. Fergie Sutherland, the gelding's trainer, believes his seven-year-old has yet to recover from his lastfence fall at Punchestown earlier this month. This uninspiring medical bulletin did not prevent Ladbrokes cutting Imperial Call's odds from 9-2 to 4-1 for

While the resumption of turf racing on Britain hinges on an inspection at Newcastle this morning, moves have already been taken to replace some of the Christmas banbles that have already fallen. A £15,000 added race is to be staged at Uttoxeter on New Year's Day to replace Wetherby's abandoned Castleford Chase, while a versioo of Kempton's lost Christmas Hordle will be held at Sandown a week today.

HYPERION

GODNG: Yielding.

Left-hand course.

Course is six pules south of Dublin. ADMISSION: Reserved Euclosure \$13; Grandstand \$10.

CAR PARK Free.

12.35 WILLIAM NEVILLE AND SONS MAIDEN HURDLE £6,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £4,110

1. 2-13262 Eron GALE (RE) Olins C Hogani Thomas Folly 7 12 0

1. 2-13262 Erton GALE (RIE) (Airs C Hogan) Thomas Foby 7 12 0 TP Browsy
2. 465157 (RURRISEE BOY (RICE) (Airs E Danoglas) C P Donoglas 7 12 0 D 7 Eleman
3. 56331 JODESI (RIE) (P J Done) W P Mallins 6 12 0 D 5 Coursy
4. 635-21 (Alccob) BOY (RIE) (Parch G J Maurph) A P O'Bhins 5 12 0 C F Sham
5. 6037-3-9 TEMPLENGOD ENTRESS (RIE) (Airs S Dojan) Votur Bowers 7 12 0 B Bowers (3)
8. 212431 STURRIM GERI (RICE) (Town and Coursy Recing Cub) P A Febry 6 11 9 T J Mitchiel
7. 354732 TURRIMARIENA GERI, (RICE) (Horny Creny) Febry Ceny 7 11 9 L J Housing (7)
8. 7 BIT O'SPEED (RIE) (Pere S Thompson) Thomas J Tanife 5 11 6 C O'Dwyer
9. 0089 NEAD CHAPLAIN (RIE) (M D MidSard) J R H Fonler 5 11 6 A Powel
10. 6-000 HEAVY RUSTLER (RIE) (Mrs. Rith Hole) A L T Moore 5 11 8 F Woods
11. F ISLE OF ROMA, (RIE) (Mrs. Rith Hole) A L T Moore 5 11 8 F Woods
12. 85 NERICS PRIDE (RIE) (Mrs. E Edich) Michael Butler 6 11 6 Mrs. A Powel
13. 00 PERMICS WOT A MESS (RIE) (Mrs. C Dotamps) Mrs. 0 J Columns 5 11 6 L P Carack
14. 0000 PERMICS WOT A MESS (RIE) (Mrs. C Dotamps) Mrs. 0 J Columns 5 11 6 L P Carack
15 J P Brodenick
16 - 17 P Rodd
17 P Rodd
18 P P Rodd
19 P P RODG ROMA (RIE) (Mrs. Racker O - 14 dischared - 14 dischared - 14 dischared - 15 Mrs. 15 Mrs. 15 Mrs. 15 Mrs. 15 Mrs. 15 Mrs. 16 Mrs. 17 Mrs.

1.05 O'DWYERS STILLORGAN ORCHARD NOVICE HURDLE £6,000 added 2m 6f Penalty Value

220111 TARTHOOFH (RRS) (Ms. H de Burgi) A L 7 Moore 5 12 0 139811 ASK THE SKITLER (RRS) (Burry Lee McChabray) C Rothe 5 11 11... 139811 BURGY (RRS) (P Formly) K Famely 7 11 8... P-12113 MODEL THITME GROW (P Malfire 8 11 8... 316105 JANE DIGEY (RRS) (New Road Syndicatel A P O'Bren 4 11 4...

WO DESTRUMENT OF

HYPERION 12.50 Jesaw Boy 1.20 Spargo Express 1.50 Gulf Shaadi 2.20 Brecon 2.50 Aljaz 3.20 Cedez Le

Prioresand, left-band, oval course.

Course is north of town on A449. Wolverhampton station 1m.

LOMESSION: Chub 515; Tattersalis 56 (OAP members of Diamond

BLEVERERD FIRST TIME: Summenter (visur, 2.20), Obelos (visur, 3.20) & Young Beason (visur, 3.20).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Hazel (2.20), Aliaz (2.50) & O
Transtevers (3.20) here been sent 156 miles by Mass Gay Kelleway
from Whitcombe, Donet.

12.50 PERSORINE HANDICAP (CLASS E) (DIV I) £3,700 added 7f

200242 DESERT NIVADER (14) (C) (D) D Chepmen 5 10 D

120 BUZZARD MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (CLASS E) £4,200 added 270 7f

1.50 PEREGRINE HANDICAP (CLASS E) (DIV

GOING: Standard. DEAW ADVANTAGE: High from 6/ to 1m 4/. STALLS: Stalls: 7/ & 1m0/ - outside; remainder - inside.

Passage 3.50 Colosse

ADMINSION: Chib 515; Timers Chib 54). CAE PARK: Pree.

- 5 declared -BETTING: 4-5 Noble Thyre, 6-4 Tarthooth, 9-2 Jame Digby, 7-1 Auk The Betler, 25-1 Buggy

2.40 King Of The Gales

3.15 Rawy 3.45 Bells Bridge

the Gold Cup yesterday.



The eventual winner, Albaha (light colours), is an early leader at Southwell vesterday

Bay to face Alderbrook

Collier Bay and Alderbrook could face each other oext Saturday in a rematch of the Champioo Hurdle at Cheltenham in March where the for-

mer came out the better. The pairs' connections are likely to be attracted by the Pertemps Hurdle, arranged following yesterday's abandonment of Kempton, which will be added to the card at Sandown. Collier Bay was never entered in the Kempton contest, but is suited by Sandown's track.

FORM GUIDE

FORM GRIDE

TARTHOOTH has won his lest timer nose in commend style and can commue his winning ways. Last time he beat Flamings Flower by three lengths over two furlongs farther at Fallyhouse and had previously come home five and a half lengths clear of Redampour over two furlongs less at Navan. He may be given most to do by Jask The Butter. Christy Roche's gelding was successful in a herdineap hurdle over the furlong less at Navan two weeks ago, beaung Bolimo Star by a head, He had previously been the easy winner of a makken hurdle at Fallyhouse over the same trip. Noble Thyne was no maids for the strain notice istained at Fallyhouse earlier this month, infishing a well-beaten third, istained was reversing a Punchestown defect by Noble Thyne, as Paddy Mullina' gelding had won by a head on their previous start and be should go close.

Selection: TARTHOOTH

1.35 WILLIAM NEVILLE AND SONS NOVICE CHASE SECOND

FORM GUIDE

-DORANS PRODE should secure his fourth chasing evin, He tackles this distance for the first time over fences but should have no problems as he excelled over extended tros in hundles.

Time over remose but should now no problems as ne excelled over extended thus in futules, Mehael housigen's gelding put in a game parformance to peg beck See More Business in the Chiquita Dirimone Novice Chiese over half a mile loss at Fallyhouse eadler this month and faces nothing of that class fren. Le Blace was also largins second to Dorans Pride at threshot when Houtigen's seven-year-old was making his chasing destruit. Although 6th better in, he should not bouble the selection, who has improved since then. Garabagh was pulled up behind Ottos Fritzer at Neverla two weeks sego when in near and on that form has of improve to brouble Le Girno, who was a well-beaten fourth. Cavalle has not shown a lot in novice chases in Britisin and should not be a problem. Selection: DORANS PRIDE

2.05 LEOPARDSTOWN CHRISTMAS HURDLE £10,000 added 3m Penalty Value £6,850

211-111 DORNAIS PRIDE (ME) (T J Down) Michael Hourgan 7 11 13 421441 LE GRAND (FR) florth Monte Partners Syndicate) Thomas Feley 9 11 7 DP4F CAMALIO (FR) (Feather Racing Syndicate) Mas SA Branail 8 11 4 SCOCCE GARRAMAN INEXT SYNDON SYNDON J H Scor 7 11 4

SETTING: 1-4 Dorans Pride, 7-2 La Ginno, 12-1 Garabagh, 25-1 Comito

34563-0 BRECON (15) W Mar 38 13 J Weaver 2
234-4 RAMEEN (25-0) (8F) W Turner 38 13 D Sentency (5) 9 9
STONECUTTER M Cherron 3 8 13 R Perham 11 V
00-50 NACEL (222 May 50) Y Malevey 4 8 9 Deep of Twell 1
504455 BALDERSY (36) 1 Bory 3 8 R Presency (5) 7
5040-0 BRAESTO'SHELDHEL (140) A Baley 3 8 R M Hollick B
5 CONDITION 1850 (76) M Seurdes 3 8 R S Drumer 10
2 SOUNDS (1504 (59) F Serie 3 8 R A Calleine 9
404600 SUPREME ILLUSION (AIRS) (23) John Berry 3 8 8

= 11 declared -RETIRG: 9-4 Rabsen, 2-1 Agent, 4-1 Spands Logal, 9-2 Stonecutier, 12-1 Holders Hill, 14-1 Rainsty, 10-1 others

2.50 FALCON HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,450

3.20 MERLIN CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 added 1m 1f 79yts

3 220325 BENTICO (AS) (CO) (BF) Mes N Mecuatry 7 9 4 C Tengare (3) 10
4 04-0000 B. TRASTEVERE (204) Mes Gay Relevany 4 9 4 Angele Sufference (7) 1
5 022365 OBELOS (AS) Mes S Wisson 5 9 4 S Wilson 6 9 4 Alex Breases 13

5 COCCOD DIFFER DISTRICT (70 p.) I PROSES \$ 9.4 ALE STREETS \$ 9.4 ALE STREETS \$ 9.4 ALE STREETS \$ 9.5 ALE STREETS \$ 9.5 ALE STREETS \$ 354041 CHADLESCH LANE (30) (C) R Holinstreed 4.8 12M Wighten 9.9 COCCOD HORINETS SPRUCE (229) A Foster 4.8 8 ... R Perham 11.10 D. 011300 YOUNG SENSON (64) (C) THIS 48 8 ... D Showards (6) 4.11 4.4 COCCO. HONESTLY (53) (CD) 8 Small 8.8 Small 8.8 ... D Showards (6) 4.11 4.4 COCCOD DIFFERENCE (215) M Small 8.8 Small 8.8 ... A Mackey (1) 1.00000 LIA FAIL (9) (C) R Holinstreed 3.8 1 J Quita 12.13 (ACRES) 4.13 4.13 (ACRES)
BETTING: 5-2 Resulto Walkner, 6-1 Bentico, 7-1 Streements, Chedinigh Laus, 8-1 Carlez Le Pessage, Yeomas Oliver, Homestly, 12-1 others

3.50 OWL HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added

1 603403 PEATHERSTONE LANE OLD (CO) Miss L Stodel 5 10 D.

LEOPARDSTOWN

LOS: NOBLE THYNE can take this. Although this gelding's future is likely to be over fences he has shown his prowess over the smallet obstacles, including a head vic-tory over Istabraq, an impressive winner here yesterday.

1.35; DORANS PRIDE is on offer at around 16-1 for the Gold Cup at Cheltenham but not everyone went overboard over his victory at Fairyhouse a month ago, where he jumped adequately, rather than in the style of a novice bound for high status. Michael Hourigan's seven-year-old will need to put today's rivals firmly in their place to justify his lofty reputation.



2.05: What A Question is a battlehardened mare who is invariably difficult to beat on this ground. She stayed on dourly at Newbury last month to win a three-mile event from ANTAPOURA. Aidan O'Brien's four-year-old was beaten under two lengths into second place that day but revews rivalry on 12lb better terms. That should enable the filly to take revenge today.

2.48: Arthur Moore, who saddled Wyde Hyde to finish second in yes-terday's even more valuable Paddy Power Chase, can take this prize with KING OF THE GALES. This

Photograph: Peter Jav

nine-year-old has joined Moore's stable since being outclassed in the Gold Cup at Cheltenham last March and being unplaced in the Irish Grand National. Prior to those events, he had shown himself to be a very useful chaser and now looks ready to recapture top form, par-ticularly in the hands of the excel-lent Francis Woods. Belvederian, who found Cheltenham's fences too nidable last time, will be bette suited by today's track. Son Of War is strongly fancied. He is a sound jumper but his preference for heavy

240 ERCSSON CHASE £50,000 added 3m Penalty SECT — a tecamen— BETIBRE 9-4 Son Df War, 7-2 Johnny Setanide, 4-1, Opera Het, 5-1 jatots Venture, 6-1 Betwien, 6-1 Bellythre Ltd, Ring Of The Gales, 15-1 jatotsseleter FORMS GUIDE.

FORM GUIDE.

JOHRONY SETASIDE can follow up his 10-length Familiause victory over Son Of War, Ballhybrid Lad Brished a well-beaten sort; at Famyhouse and should not trouble the salection
as he is 3.1in worse off. Opera But may prove the main danger to Noel Meade's galding.
She was a comfortable winner over half a mile less at Naes last time, beauting Tryfrion by
seven languas. She had lidious Venture just over times largetty farther back in little and is
now 1.1in better in, King Of The Gales was 15 lengths farther back in such on the same
terms. Beheedenkan unsested his inter early in the TriplePhirt Gold Cup is ChettenHarm two
weeks ago but had previously been rune lengths third to Sound Man over a male less at Con-

me	and tho	add go well. Selection: JOHNNY SETASIDE	l
	115	R Y E FOR SPORT HANDICAP HURDLE £10,000 added 2m Penalty Value £6,850	
1	F4-11144	MANHATTAN CASTLE GREE OF Fizzenedo A LT Moore 7 12 0 FWoods	l
2	13-F736	PUNERNO PETE (IRE) (B Doyle) WP Mulica 6 11 11	ı
3	25-4019	REASKINA (RE) (P Severic) E.J. O'Grady 6 11 9	
ě	5-64544	ARCTIC WEATHER (ME) (Richard Bonne) LL J P O'Brigh 7 11 5	
5	307353	METASTASIO (RE) (F Mellor) D G Movicle 4 11 5	i
Ď	1-41002	RAWY (USA) Libra P McMenus) C Roche 4 11 5C O'Dwror	
7		CLIFDON FOG (RE) (J PHIB JS Bolger 5 11 3 C F Swan	ı
ġ	F40140		
š		FONDAME LODGE (FIRE) (ABC Syndomini Anthony Mulins 6 10 10	1
in		Visite Kents (D. Colored B Delegrap D 10.5	

3.45 P.B. BUMPER! NH FLAT RACE £12,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £8,220

25-2851 AS BOYAL (RE) (Michael () Down) Thomas Foley 5 12 0. Mr P English (3)
1 DANIESPORT BANGGET (RE) (Mrs M O'Collegian) W P Malins 5 12 0. Mr J A Nash
P21 OPTMERS RESGNS (RES) (Ohn I McLoughin) John J McLoughin 5 12 0. Mr J F Feeton
41 CALIM SUPPLIED (RES) (Remotes of Parkins 5 11 9. Mr A C Coyle (7)
491 THE ENEY MARIE (RIC) (Seguins Fahey) Sastons Fahey 7 11 9. Mr P Feshey (7)
BBLLS REDGIE (RE) (Potick G J Marphy A P O'Thom 8 11 7. Mr B M Cash (3)
D-DUSHY JAMP (RE) (AND Cashy Henry Cashy 8 11 7. Mr B G Elliott (7)
CHOCOLATE GRIL (RE) 0. O'Connot James M O'Connot 5 11 2. Mr G Elliott (7)

FORM GUIDE. ANTAPOURA is taken to reverse the Newbury placings with What A Question on 12th better terms. What A Question has since desappointed at Ascot, finishing a well-beaten last of the finishers to Ocean Hewk in the Long Walk Hurdle over a furing and a half fether but should still go close. Radempour may prove the main danger to the pair. He was tailed off when felling in the Aronnore Heston's Grace Hurdle behind Lergie Action over half a mile less at Farryhouse serier this morth but had been running well in novce events. Runtinglebeat was no match for Rosin The Sow over this trip at Naham a week ago, finishing a wellbeaten fourth. He had, however, won a handloop hurdle over half a mile less at Toperay on his previous start by rine lengths. Doe Ell returns from chasing and may appreciate the run. Selection: ANTAPOURA ### BETTING: 8-4 Devemport Banquet, 2-1 Beils Bridge, 7-2 The Grey Here, 4-1 As Royal, 5-1 Culfa Squrame, 6-1 Opticion Reigns, 10-1 Checolate Cal, 20-1 Reign Lamp

NEWCASTRE WEST

1.00 Sea Victor 1.30 Court Joker (nb) 2.00 RUS-

_____C O'Deper _____Mr.J D Moore (7)

TIC AIR (nap) 2.30 Santa Concerto 3.00 Sparky

Gayle 3.30 Mister Ross GOING: Good to Soft.

Left-fund, oval course, with rising run-in; tough, galloping track.

Course is on A1, 6m N of Lown. Metro service to Four Lane
Ends station from Novemette raffury station. Bus service from there.

ADMOSSION: Chab S12; Tautersalls 59; Siver Ring 54 (52 for
OAPs and registered disabled). CAR PARK: Prec.

SIS Jacob VISORED PREST TIME: Jensima Probibetuck (1.50). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATE: None. LONG-DISTANCE EUNERS: Son Vetor (1.00) & Sur-Rage (2.30) have been sent 186 miles by J Harris from Eastwell, Leichstephire.

1.00 NEWCASTLE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 4f 1 246-311 BEGBARS BANQUET (25) (CD) P Beaumort 6 11 12.

18 4 YEN/CROFT BOY (18) M Barnes 5 10 12 5 Teylor (5)
19 042-2 CHERRY DEE (28) P Beautront 5 10 7 5 Teylor (5)
20 declared - 10 declared - R Supple
ENTING: 9-4 Begigns Bangest, 7-2 Sea Victor, 6-1 Sotherland Moss, 8-1 Matta Man, Charry Due, Fayette County, 10-1 Southern Cross, 14-1 Drossore Dressn, 20-1 others

1.30 GRAINGER TOWN HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,650 added 2m

5135- BUROLINK THE REBEL (215) (D) S Clan 4 12 0 __C McCorenck (7) 11 P3SP31 COURT JOIGER (15) H Nementer 4 10 11 B Storey
12 00504 \$55NLA (8) J O'Ney 5 10 11 Photo
13 5612-06 NAMEN'S LAW (50) (0) Q Velly 9 10 10 Mr C Natholl
14 304P-90 NOORAN (45) A Whiten 5 10 0 S Taylor (5)

— 18 dectared —
Afternorm weight: 10st, True handkap weight: Totao 9x 12th,
BETTING: 6-1 Febtinis Heard, 7-5 Trienshum, 8-1 Coert Jokes, Chill Wind,
Siddian Samba, 10-1 Eurolph The Robot, Aide Memotra, 12-1 others

2.00 GOSFORTH PARK HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £6,500 added 2m 4f

1016-11 ENSBY JONES (25) (CD) 5 Noticeed 8 12 D _____P Novem 8417-32 TRIBUCKTOO (25) J Clear 9 11 4 _____ S Storry 1134-34 SOLBA (10) (B) C Poider 7 10 9 _____ D Parker 13/5U22 POPESHAL (245) (CD) Mas 5 Williameon 8 10 9 A Total (7) 5122-23 ALIADRES (25) (D) (687) LLW Easterly 7 10 9 ____ M A Fitzgenald 8 23P-340 MUSTIC AIR (28) (D) J Fizzkrald 9 10 3 P Curbo 03P-202 DEEP DECISION (28) (CD) P Chestrough 1D 10 0

— 9 decimed — Minhaum neight: 10st. Two handsap weight: Suppour 9st 5b. BETTINK: T-4 Eneby John, 4-1 Rustic Air, 6-1 Aljadom, Deep i 6-1 Turknickton, 10-1 Solbe, 12-1 others

2.30 BRANDLING HOUSE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 added 2m 4f 41-1114 TOM BROOKE (1A) (2) (B) J H Johnson 5 (2 D ... P Carbony 31119/5 UNICLE DOUG (25) (C) Mrs M Reveley 5 (2 D ... P Miver 411300 STAR RAGE (250) (D) J L Harm 6 (13 1.1 1...) C Gallegham 12/1/13- SANGA CONCERTO (3002 L Lungo 7 11 11 1... ... R Supple ODIO 48 PALACEBATE (3006 186) (C) A Wishins 7 11 7 ... 5 Tuylor (5) 4-43132 DALLY BOY (7) (5) T Except 4 11 0 A S Smith DOUG (22) (20) P Microsoft 5 10 12 (Gev A Dobbin 51231-3 PUREVALUE (12) (0) (BP) M W Except 5 10 11... M A Fitzgeration of the control of t

3.00 NORTHUMBERLAND NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 2m 110yds S254-11 SPANKY GRYLE (28) (C) (D) C Parker 6 12 D ______ 5 Store 603FSR MONAUGHTY MAN (5) E Carre 10 11 6 _____ - 8 deciared -DETTING: 2-5 Sparity Gayle, 6-1 Killbally Boy, 7-1 Minter Hosp, 12-1 Feb

her, 16-1 Singley Sand, 20-1 Mijesty, 50-1 others 3.30 OLD YEAR NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E)

15 ADVANCE EAST (14) (D) U. Dods 4 11 5 R. Supple
15 ADVANCE EAST (14) (D) U. Dods 4 11 5 A Supple
13-253 SAMAND (7) (D) MAS L. SOGRI 4 11 5 A Thombse
13-253 SAMAND (7) (D) MAS L. SOGRI 4 11 5 A Thombse
14 BOLLIN FRANK (46) T Eastetly 4 10 12 A Bobbin
DESERT LOSE R McMally 5 10 12 M Notionally
15 CHEST GABLE (253) D McRail 5 10 12 D J Mortast
16 OFF JARROW (10) MAS A Registro 5 10 12 M Fonds
17 Fond
18 ARROW (10) MAS A Registro 5 10 12 A 3 Smith
19 COUNTRO J FORGARD (4 10 12 A 3 Smith
19 COUNTRO J FORGARD (4 10 12 A 3 Smith
10 COUNTRO J FORGARD (4 10 12 P Ribert
10 TROMA'S HOPE (25) E Care 7 10 12 Tiotaco Davidson (7)
10 UN FOCO LICCO (45) Next J Brown 4 10 12 E Gallagian (5)
16 PSP5-00 COQUET 600D (55) F Walter 5 10 7 B 8 Storey
18 Gallaryd -- 18 declared BETTING: 11.4 Quango, 7-2 Advance East, 6-1 Mister Rose, 7-1 Bollin Frank, 8-1 Feeses, 14-1 Marton, Ten Post Sk, 16-1 others

Augin enters the final stretch

sport

Sailing STUART ALEXANDER

Britain's Pete Goss yesterday began the 1,200-mile haul up to Hobart after his rescue of the Freochmao Raphael Dinelli recommand Rapinari Diment from a sinking yacht in the Vendee Globe singlehanded non-stop round the world race. As Goss set off, the race

leader Christophe Augin was closing on Cape Horn and spproaching the last stretch up through the southern Atlantic, across the doldrums and on tu the finish at Les Sables

Aught bas a 1,000-mile lead over the Canadian Gerry Roufs in a race which has again taken a heavy toll on equipment and personnel. Goss will be given time compensation both for his 150-mile dash to pick up

Dinelli and the diversion to trop Also oo a last stretch is Mike Golding (Group 4), who leads the second leg of the BT Chal-leoge from Rio de Janeiro to Wellington. He should arrive tomorrow with a lead of at least 50 miles over second-placed Andy Hindley (Save the Childreo) and a considerable in-

crease in his advantage over Simon Walker (Toshiba). Walker trails by more than 140 miles in third place, having been second by less than three hours on the first leg from

Southampton, Also beading for Tasmania are the Hong Kong yacht Exile and the German maxi Morning Glory, the leaders of the Sydney to Hobart race.

Exile has staged a remarkable recovery io rough seas since restarting the race on Thursday because she jumped the start. The green-hulled yacht, skippered by Australian expatriate Warwick Miller, took the lead yesterday but was expected to be overtaken overnight by the

Tasmania is also the destination for the favourites of the Melbourne to Hobart race which started yesterday. The Royal Navy's team is skippered by Mickey Broughton.

Winter games' success

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

Leeds plan to restore Boxing Day matches to a permanent place on their calendar after the success of their clash with Halifax this week. A crowd of 13,600 was at Headingley for the game despite the complete lack of public transport in Leeds on the bank holiday.

The attendance certainly

justified our decision to stage the fixture," said Gary Hetheringtoo, the Leeds' chief executive, who, ironically, was one of the arch-advocates of the switch to a summer season.

The future of the Wigan v St Helens fixture on Boxiog Day also looks secure after a crowd of more than 16,000 turned up at Ceotral Park. Swinton will be without their

new signing from Wigan, Andy Craig, for the match at Oldham on Sunday. Craig has knee trouble and Swinton will also have to manage without their half-back Pe-

ter Cannon and their former Oldham prop Leo Casey, who are hoth recovering from The game is being played to

mark the closure and demoli-tion of the Watersheddings ground, 107 years after the first match, also against Swinton, was played there. Oldham, who will play their

Super League matches at Boundary Park next season. are hoping to give a debut to their new signing Vince Fawcett, who last played with the Aus-tralian club Parramatta. But Fawcen's previous Eng-

lish club, Workington Town, say that he is still registered with them and that they are entitled to a fee.



Pick of the Day

Decisive Moments Sun 8pm BBC2

The stories behind some of the most memorable media images of the last year are discussed by editors, picture editors and the photographers themselves - one way of remembering 1996 in all its ignominy (Dunblane, TWA flight 800, the Canary Wharf bomb, right...) and glory (Take That break up.... Gazza's goal against Scotland...). There's a more traditional review of the year's events on Monday 30 Dec on BBC1.





Film of the Day

Heaven and Earth Sun 10.10pm BBC2

I'm not a great fan of Oliver Stone's bombastic, in-yer-face style of film-making, and I think his politics - If you want to be kind about it - are just a tad mixed-up. However, Stone (left) does breach subjects that Hollywood is largely silent about, and this 1993 offering is, in a way, the third part of his Vietnam trilogy (the other two being Platoon and Bom on the Fourth of July). This time, the conflict is seen through the eyes of a Vietnamese peasant woman.

Sunday television and radio

BBC 1

7.00 STATE Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines (Ken Annakin 1965 UK). July aviation comedy about a sponsored London to Paris air race. Stuart Whitman, Sarah Miles, James Fox and Terry-Thomas star (67691894). * 9.10 News (3685900).

9.15 The Good Book Guide (S) (1109349).

9.30 First Light (S) (274) 7). 10.00 See Quo Vadis? (Mervyn LeRoy 1951 U5). Peter Ustinov fidd)es as Rome burns, and centurion Robert Taylor falls for Christian woman Deborah Kerr (67504374). *

12.45 The World's Strongest Man (S) (105436). * 1.15 News (82701829). *

1.25 Tom and Jerry (48988349). 1.30 Just William (R) (S) (20504). 2.00 The Bookworm (S) (8405).

2.30 EastEnders Omribus (S) (3998423), *
3.25 The Wizard of Oz on Ice. As choreographed by

Robin Cousins (S) (3868639). 4.10 The World of Peter Rabbit and Friends. Animated
The Tale of Tom Kitten and Jemima Puddleduck (R) (S) (1272184). *

(r) (3) (1272184).*
4.35 EastEnders Omnibus (S) (3732469). *
5.35 News and Weather (299610). *
5.50 Regional News (483523).
5.55 Songs of Praise. New Year worship from Vienna

(S) (762368). *

6.30 Last of the Summer Wine Christmas Special (S) 7.15 Antiques Roadshow: The Next Generation. Special roadshow for youngsters from The Royal Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh (S) (419184).

8.00 Only Fools and Horses. Raquel ponders the wisdom of inviting her parents to a dinner party at Nelson Mandela House (S) (5233), *

9.00 Way Out West Starring Richard Wilson. See Preview, p24 (S) (290813), *

9.50 News and Weather (574436), *

10.05 The Frank Skinner Show (S) (229146),

10.45 The Spirit of 66 with Alf Garmett. Curious programme in which "Alf Gamett" (Warren Mitchell) presents moments from the World Cup of 1966 with music, comedy and news footage of

that year, Any reason? (971726). 11.45 In Alfie (Lewis Gilbert 1966 UK), Michael Calne sleeps his way through the birds of Swinging London in this Influential sex cornedy. Millicent Martin, Jane Asher, Denholm Elliott and Shelley Winters co-star (543894).

1.35 Film Funeral in Berlin (Guy Hamilton 1966 UK). Michael Caine again - this time in Harry Palmer mode in the follow-up to the previous year's The

3.15 Weather (41892450). To 3.20am.

BBC2

7.30 Children's BBC: Joe 90, 7.55 Playdays. 8.15 Bitsa. 8.30 Jackanory Gold. 8.45 Highlander, * 9.10 The Itsy Bitsy Spider. 9.30 Incredible Games. * 10.00 The Mask. * 10.25 Grange Hill. * 10.50 Blue Peter: The Best Bits.

11.20 Bay City.
11.45 The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures.
Professor 5 mon Conway Morris discusses how the study of fossils can provide a fascinating insight into ancient natural history, recording clues as to the speed of the earth's rotation and the

as to the speed of the earth's rotation and the movement of prehistoric animals (S) (892610). *

12.45 The Simpsons (S) (9180271). *

1.10 Simal Fantastic Voyage (Richard Fleischer 1966 US). A top scientist suffers severe brain damage during an assassination attempt, forcing a medical team to be miniaturised to microscopic size and .

team to be miniaturised to microscopic size and injected Inside his body to effect a miracle cure. Not available on the NHS. 5tarring Raquel Welch and Donald Pleasence (60390639), *

2.45 Cartoons (3990829).

3.00 The Phil Silvers Show, Bilko reveals his gambling secrets while talking in his sleep (R) (1823436).

3.25 The Essential Olympics. New series. Desmond I yearn calebrates 100 years of the modern. Lynam celebrates 100 years of the modern games, introducing archive footage of the so-called Chariots of Fire Games of 1924 and the

infamous 1936 Olympics in Berlin (S) (8392894). * 4.25 Choir of the Year. The final (S) (8568928). 5.15 Rugby Special, Highlights from Leicester v Harlequins, and a preview of next week's European Cup Final semi-finals (S) (789287).

6.15 Star Trek: Voyager. Haakonian grief (S) (634146).7.00 American Visions. Robert Hughes concludes his

excellent series with The Age of Anxiety – art in the age of Nixon and the Vietnam War (S) (7455), * 8.00 Decisive Moments: Review of the Year. Photographers, picture editors and agencies tell the stories behind the year's newsworthy images (S) (3875). * See Pick of the Day, above

9.00 The Moonstone, 1/2. See Preview, p24 (S) (5728225). 10.10 Heaven and Earth (Oliver Stone 1993 U5). Having chronicled the American experience of the Vietnam War, Stone turns his attention to the Vietnamese themselves - following one woman from a peaceful childhood in a peasant village through the traumatic events of the war to her role as the wife of a US serviceman in America. See

Film of the Day, above (S) (24423349). 12.25Luck, Trust and Ketchup. Behind-the-scenes on Robert Altman's film Short Cuts (454160). 2.05 Weather (5446540), To 2.10am.

Bach: Partita No 3 in A minor,

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV (7363097). 9.25 The World's Greatest Magic (5912287). 10.15 Link (3517287). * 10.30 Sunday Live (17338). 11.00 Morning Worship (27504). 12.00 Sunday Live (91558). 12.30 It's a Tiny Toon Christmas (29829). 1.00 News (99103900). 1.10 Best of Treasures (1623981).

2.10 Pete's Dragon (Don Chaffey 1977 U5). Poor Disney live action and animation mix (the dragon is animated) about a lonely orohan and his protective fire-breathing chum. Jim Dale, Mickey Rooney and Helen Reddy star (61 508691). *
4.40 The Making of Moll Flanders. A report on the

preparation and work that went into filming the recent bodice-ripper (1249097).

5.10 Tales of the Turf. Final programme in the series about the world of horse racing (7743165).

5.40 Local News, Weather (556417). *

5.55 See Sleeping Beauty (Clyde Geronimi 1959 US). Disney animation about the young princess with the big snooze habit. Expensively made, but

not one of Uncle Walt's best (\$) (4054436), *
7.20 News, Weather (412455). *
7.30 Coronation Street. Curly is bernused to find himself the centre of attention as both Anne and Maxine confess their feelings for him. Credibility

check, please (436). * Check, please (4.36). *

8.00 EMM The Living Daylights (John Glen 1987 UK).

Timothy Dalton makes his debut as a rather dour, po-faced James Bond, helping the Soviet authorities hunt down a renegade KGB defector who is batting for both sides. The Idea was to go back to the series roots, but that didn't spell great entertainment. Maryam d'Abo, Jee Don Baker and At Mallir "Bood" support (3) 6:001.76911.*

Art Mallk "lend" support (S) (50017691). *
10.25 Hale and Pace Down Under. Naughty feltas
Garetin Hale and Norman Pace return from Australia with some new characters and sketches

(S) (863504), *
11.25 News, Weather (201610). *
11.39 LWT Weather (617542).
11.40 The Beatles Anthology. The moptops stop touring, retreat into the studio and return with the Sergeant Pepper album (R) (S) (285368). *

1.40 Mahler (Ken Russell 1974 UK). Typically daft, overblown Ken Russell biography restrained only by the low budget. Robert Powell plays the Austrian composer, while Georgina Hale is his stifled wife, Alma (81 363837). 3,45 Cool Vibes (R) (56465030).

4.05 EXEM The New Adventures of Pippi Longstocking (Ken Annakin 1988) Taml Erin stars as the mischlevous young girl with an amazing array of supernatural powers (S) (47929301). 5.55 News (4793214). To 6,00am.

Radio 4

Channel 4

6.15 Biltz! (R) (S) (4608184).
7.10 The Hill Billie Goats (R) (7961146).
7.35 Bilter Mice from Mars (1676523).
8.00 Hang Time (S) (7854542).
8.25 The Adventures of Hyperman (7937829).

8.55 Insektors (S) (9976271). 9.15 Saved by the Bell (R) (928829), * 9.45 California Dreams (847900).

10.15 Happy Days (R) (8493320). 10.40 Hollyoaks Omnibus (S) (6268542). * 11.40 The Waltons (R) (3824097). * 12.40 God in the House, Raving Christians (9183368).
1.05 Snow Business (5473233).
2.10 Silent Love, German short (64667436).
2.30 Silent The Robe (Henry Koster 1953 US), Roman canturing Bishard Business (5473230).

centurion Richard Burton annoys Caligula by converting to the new-fangled Christian faith. Jean Simmons is the reason why (61355542). *

5.05 Brookside Omnibus (S) (4694436). *
6.30 Two Fat Rorys. Rory Bremner celebrates his 50th show for Channel 4 with his two "characters". weatherman Ian McCaskill and Des Lynam (894). 7.00 Women at Play: A Lady's Guide to Casinos. See Preview, p24 (S) (7981). *

7.30 Just Dancing Around? Mark James profiles choreographer Trisha Brown, heroine of the Sixties avant-garde scene. See Preview, p24

8.30 Files Ride the High Country (Sam Peckinpah 1962 US). Sam Peckinpah's second film is a beautifully photographed western starring Randolph Scott as a lawman-turned-circus sharpshooter who agrees to help transport gold bullion to a bank, but plans to steal it en route. loei McCrea co-stars (76573962). *

10.15 (SER) The Ballad of Little Io (Maggle Greenwald 1993 US). Interesting and unusual film starring Suzy Amis as an 1860s New York socialite thrown out of her father's house after bearing an Illegitimate child and being forced to start a new life in the Wild West - as a man (24417788). *

12.30 The Oklahoma Kid (Lloyd Bacon 1939 US).

James Cagney makes an unlikely cowboy as he

sets out to avenge himself on Humphrey Bogart for his father's death (38943). 2.00 The Public Enemy (William A Wellman 1931 US). Classic gangster thriller-lives up to its reputation. You can see why it put James Cagney on the map as the bootlegger on his way to the top, by way of smashing a grapefruit in Mae Clarke's face. Edward Woods, Jean Harlow and

Joan Blondell co-star (26382). 3.30 The Ricordi Saga, 4/4. Last in the series about the Ricordi family, Verdi is dead and Puccini is trying to finish Turandot (78721), To 5.00am.

ITV/Regions

ANGUA
As Landon except: 12.30pm James Bond Jnr (29829).
1.10 The Majong of Star Test: First Contact (307196 it).
1.40 Klok-Off Livet (93527436). 4.15 Coldeneye. The Secret Files (647097). 4.45 Bugs Bunny Overtures to Disaster (606900). 1.40am Instant Reptay 1995 (2737540). 2.40am Bushell on the Box (5541194). 2.40am Funny Busness (82703382). 3.40am Filmr Warnets of the Lost Kingdom (3916878). 5.00-5.30am Not Fadle Away (99382).

CHANNEL 3 NORTH EAST/PERISHBLE
AS Landon example 12.30 pm Channel 3 North East: World
of Wonder (91895-12). Tortis: Goals on Sunday
(91895-42). 1.10 Coronation Street (30/19610). 1.40
R's a Titly Soot Christmas (21742633). 2.05 Masters
of Illusion (9814875). 2.55 Film: Peter's Dragon
(29425078). 5.25 Cartoon Turie (5696417). 1.40am
Films Grayal (84013295). 4.35-5.55am Films Race for
Your Life, Charlie Brown (9692769).

Rs London except. 12.30pm Central Newsweek (518542): 1.10 Masiers of Nusson (5151738): 2.00 The Central Match - Livel (86947894): 4.15-5.50pm Film: The Steepers (47829441).

NW
As London except: 12.25pm West: It's a Tirty Toon Christmas: 18.183786. Waters: Petersen (8183786): 1.40
Waters: Film: Peter's Dragon (48.107455). 2.00 West:
The West Match – Live (61.528456). 3.55 Waters: Masters of Illusion (8169097). 4.25 West: World of Worder (6460558). 4.50 Waters: Tellyphonin' (2483977).
4.55 West: Masters of Illusion (91.17523). 1.40em Instant Replay 1996 (27.37540). 2.40em Bushell on the Box (5564194). 3.10em Furtry Business (82.103382).
3.40em Film: Wizards of the Lost Kingdom (39.16818).
5.00-5.30em Not Fade Avery (99382).

Interpretable As London escept: 12.30pm Carloon Time (3730504). As London escept: 12.30pm Carloon Time (3730504). 1.10 PBm; Freeze Frame (9942271). 2.40 Cartoon Time (1528954). 2.45 PBm; Peters Dragon (61345165). 5.20 Grass Roots Compilations (8933097). 1.40am Instant Replay 1996 (2737540). 2.40am Bushell on the Box (5541194). 3.10am Furny Business (82103382). 3.40am Filon; Wizards of the Lost Kingdom (3916818). 5.00-5.30am Not Fade Away (99332).

Westcountry

As London emept: 12.30pm Westcountry Update
(9.1895-22). 1.10 Pongo's Tall: The Matering of 10) Dalmalans (30719510). 1.40 Masters of Busin 14673417.
2.30 Goldeneye: The Secret Files (75097). 3.30 FilmPetr's Dargon (505097). 1.40am Instant Replay 1996
(2737540). 2.40am Busines (654219.3).
3.10am Furny Business (62103382). 3.40am Film; Vizards of the Last Kingdom (3916818). 5.00-5.30am Not Fade Away (99382).

As C4 except: 12,40pm Rownd a Rownd (9532542).
1.30 Stot Menthin (46542). 2.00 Arching y Flwyddyn (13813). 3.00 Coping with Censtrias (5900). 3.30 Party of Five (9148504). 4.25 Brooksrid (7136523). 5.50 Name (5070). 3.3 ny or y New (97,189-97), 4-25 in Poistrio (77,50-27), 5-30 News (49081-3), 5-30 Michine Paur Wow or Marthyn (2922), 7-30 Pobol y Dwm (338), 7-30 Pochrau Carru, Dechrau Carrun (338), 8-00 Twrto (57,4271), 8-55 Y Pairman, Axt (77,450-2), 9-55 News (72,450-4), 10-05 Film: Shopping (22,4610), 11,48-1,30am Film: The World's Oldest Living Bridesmand (6583-56).

Radio Choice



Secret Bedrooms (7pm R1) comes with a warning that some may find it distasteful; though frankly, this catalogue of the things that go on in teenage bedrooms (sex, smoking, oversleeping, untidiness) is rather less frank and fearless than most poems by the Earl of Rochester, hero of Stephen Jeffreys' play, The Libertine (7.30pm R3) and played by Bill Nighy (left).

Radio 1 07.6-99.8MHz RM 7.00am Kevin Greening 10.00 Dave Pearce 2.00 Trevor Netson's Rhytim Nation 4.00 UK Top 40 7.00 Secret Bedrooms. See Choice, above, 8.00 John Peel: Festive 50 Part 4 10.00

Best Albums of 1996 12.00 Andy Kershaw 4.00-7.00am Charle Jordan Radio 2 (33-90.200) FM 7.00am Don Maclean 9.05 Steve Wright's 5unday Love Songs 11.00 The Best of Parkinson's Sunday Sup-

plement 1.00 Desmond Camngton 3.00 Benny Green 4.00 A Year to

Remember 4.30 Sing Something Simple 5.00 Parn Ayres 7.00 Hugh Scully 8.30 Sunday Half Hour 9.00 Alan Kelth 10.00 The David Jacobs gramme 12.05 Adrian Finishan 3.00-7.00am Steve Madden Radio 3

190.2-92.4Mic PMD 55am News Headlines; Weather.
 7.00 Sacred and Profane. 9.00 Brian Kay in Vienna. 12.15 Robert Woolley. Froberger: Toccata No 4 in F₁ Suite No 1 in A minor; Suite No 18 in G minor.

1.00 The Liquid Companion, Andrew Jefford braves the horizontal rain of Islay to discover the secrets bewhiskies produced north of the

ture: Helios, Glinka: Valse-Far talsle, Prokoliev Plano Conerto No 2. Nielsen: Symphony No 2, 2.45 Spirit of the Age. George Pratt reports from the Armenia monastery on the island of San Lazzaro in the Venetian laggors, one of the few places in the world still practising the ancient tradition of Armenian chant. 3.45 Thomas Hampson at the Wig-

more. The American bartone Thomas Hampson in a recital given earlier this month at the Wigmore Hall, London, to mark the centenary of composer Carl Loewe, Loewe: Gruss am Meer; chen; Über allen Gipfein; Der du Von der Himmel; Ich Denke Dein, Oer Zumenden Diana; Die Gotter Griechenlands, Schumann; Lieder und Gesange aus dem Lyrischen

5.45 The Sunday Feature: Walter

the last great impresarios, whose formidable authority helped shape postwar music. Natalle Wheen explores the man with contemporaries, colleagues and his widow

certo No 1 in E minoc

11.15 Closer to the Gods. Janet

6.30 Chopin by Arrangement, Rearrangements of music by Chopin, presented by Jeremy Nicholas. Chopin, orch Balakirey: Plano Con-

1675, Stephen Jeffreys' drama centres on the louche figure of poet, wit and Restoration hero, he was regularly banished from the court of Charles II for excesses of every kind. See Choice, left. 9.10 Choir Works, François Coupenn

Topp-Fargion explores the African music of possession and transe, Including the Giriama spirit dance from eastern Kenya, Suff ceremonies from porthern Morocco

1.00 Through the Night. 5.30-6.30am Sequence. Legge. Watter Legge, the founder of the Philharmonta, was one of

7.30 The Sunday Play: The Libertine. Set in the London of

Messe Solonnelle a l'Usage des Paroisses. The season of music for the Mass continues with a performance from the Chapel Royal in

and the calling-down of the spirits in the Blekets cut among the Anio people of Ghana. (1/2). 11.45 Record Review.

192494.6MHz FM, 198642 LM 6.00am News. 6.10 Something Understood. 7.00 News. 7.10 Sunday Papers. 7.15 On Your Farm.

7.40 Sunday. .50 The Week's Good Cause. 9.00 News. 9.10 Sunday Papers. 9.15 Letter from America.

9.30 Morning Service. 10.15 The Archers. Omnibus edition. 11.15 (LW) Test Match Special. Commentary on the fourth day of the Second Test, with Peter Baxe Henry Blofeld and Simon Mann. 11.15 (FM) Proud Walker. Drama telling the story of the man who single-handedly relaid the founda-

tions of Winchester Cathedral. 11.45 (FM) Foreign Correspondence. Red Harrison describes life in Sydney as a foreign correspondent. 12.15 (FM) Desert Island Oiscs. With author Martin Amis. 12.55 Weather

1.00 The World This Weekend. 1.10 (LW) Test Match Special. 1.55 Shipping Forecast.
2.00 (LW) Test Match Special.
2.00 (FM) Gardeners' Question Time.
2.30 Classic Serial: Alice in Wooder-tand. By Lewis Carroll, Alice finds her way into a magical garden. (2/2).

3.30 Pick of the Year.
4.15 Tales from the Organ Loft, Jerenny Summerly presents an indepth insight into the world of the church organist. 5.00 Something to Write Home

About, Cornedy duo Sean Foley and Harrish McCbll take their Vemon to India, stopping to sam-ple the delights of Bollywood along the way. 5.30 Poetry Please!

5.50 Shipping Forecast. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 United States of Anger: Gavin Ester examines why so many Americans are apathetic about

6.30 Whispering Among the Leaves. Evocative recordings of woodland. sounds, from rustling leaves to res oriant tree trunks.
7.00 A Good Read. Sarah Dunant Invites satirists John Bird and John Fortune to discuss their three

favourite paperbacks. 8.00 Gardening Under the Raj. Sue Phillips examines how British hor-ticulturalists attempted to trans-form the Indian landscape. 8.30 Making History. Christopher Andrew continues his intimate look at the work of historians.

9.00 Glory Days. 9.30 Strictly TT. An apreciative profile

of Terry-Thomas by Michael 10.00 News. 10.15 Medicine Now.

10.45 Breakay 10.45 Breakaway, 11.15 Ode to Hilversum. An look at how the medium of radio comple-ments and inspires poetry. With nelly, Gillian Clarke, Robert Craw ford, Kathleen Jamie and Ken

Smith. 11.45 Seeds of Faith. Mike Ford embarks on a pilgrimage to Ephesus in western Turkey, meeting pilgrims from across the world as

they travel in the footsteps of St Paul. 12.20 Bells on Sunday, From Orleans, Massachusetts. 12.30 The Late Story: Rumpole and

the Widow Twankey. By John 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00-5.00am As World Service.

Radio 5 603,999/it life
6.05am Hold the Front Page Christ-mas Special 6.30 Breakfast 9.05
Sunday with Mair 11.35 Frostbite and Footbolds 12.05 The Big Byte 12.35 Crime Desk 1.05 Gary Linek-er's Sunday Sport 6.05 Sportscali 7.00 News Extra 7.35 You Cannot Be Serious 8.35 The Irish in Britain 9,00 Dailyn Worldwide 10,05 Acid Test 10,35 Out This Week 11,00 Night Extra 11,35 SportsAmerica 12,05 Night Moves 2.05 Up All Night 5.05-6.00am Entertainment '96

6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 New Year Lunch 3.00 Adiemus, Sones of Sanctuary 4.00 Best of Classic Discoveries 1996 6.00 A Question of Classics

Virgin Radio (1215, 1197-12604b; MW) 05 8MHz FMD

6.00am Janey Lee Grace 10.00 Gra-ham Dene 2.00 Bobby Hain 6.00 Lynn Parsons 10.00 Gary Davies 2.00-6.00am Howard 1 **World Service**

THE INDEPENDENT Folding Wheelbarrow

lightweight and extremely easy to manoeuvre. It folds flat so that it can be hung out of the way when not in use, making it ideal for anyona short

The wheelbarrow frame is made from tubular steel which is light yet very strong and rust resistant. The carrying pan is made from tough, durable woven polypropylene that will not easily tear, is easy to clean and will not be damaged by damp or messy

loads. Ideal for clearing leaves, collecting weeds and other

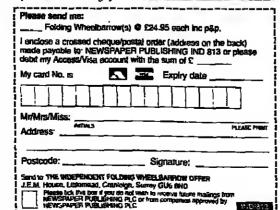
general garden tasks, it measures 115 x 53 x 6cm when folded

flat and weighs just 2.3kg. It will carry loads up to 45kg (100lb) and has a handy front pocket for storing your gloves, twine or tools. Supplied flat packed, this folding wheelbarrow is easy to put together and is an absolute

bargain at only £24,95 inc p&p.



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5871
6.00am Hour of Power (48610).
7.00 My Little Pony (8635875).
7.25 Dynamo Duck (6918900).
7.30 Delfy and His Friends
(59504). 8.00 Orson and Olivia
(36691). 8.30 Free Willy (35962).
9.00 The Best of Geraldo (71436).
10.00 Young Indiana Jones Chronicles (65788). 11.00 Parker Lewis
Can't Lose (97726). 11.30 Real cles (65788). 11.00 Parker Lewis Can't Lose (97726). 11.30 Real TV (98455). 12.00 WWF: Supers-tars (86184). 1.00 Star Trek (62504). 2.00 Mysterious Island (33691). 3.00 The New Adven-tures of Superman (92271). 4.00 Kung Fu (88078). 5.00 Great Es-capes (7523). 5.30 Muppets Tonight! (3436). 6.00 The Simp-sons (4879). 6.30 The Simpsons sons (4879), 6.30 The 5impsons (7829), 7.00 Beverly Hills 90210 (23639), 8.00 The New Adventures of Superman (36977), 9,00 The X Files Reopened (12523), 10.00 Millenium (15610), 11.00 Manhunter (66417). 12.00 60 Minutes (31382). 1.00 Civil Wars (67382). 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix Long Play (95653).

7.00pm Xena: Warrior Princess (1822726). 8.00 Melrose Place (1802962). 10.00 Poltergeist: The Legacy (1821097). 11.00 Seinfeld (2139287), 11.30 Who Do You Do? (5982349), 12.00 Films Movers and 5hakers (1985) (2648566). 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix Long Play (8645030).

faces one of his most dangerous as-signments when he tangles with and his deadly mute sidekick Oddjob. Tongue-In-cheek adventure, with Sean Connery, Gert Frobe and Honor Blackman (94529788). 8.00 Hercules and the Amazon Women (1994). The mighty mythical hero sets out with his friend to rescue the residents of a small vil-lage from a gang of Amazonian Sorbo, Anthony Guinn and Michael Hurst (21271). 10.00 Judge Dredd (1995), Sci-fi thriller star vester Statione, Armand Assante Max von Sydow and Diane Lane (853523). 11.40 The Movie Show (644436). 12.10 Romeo is Bleeding (1993) (187011), 1.55 Love in the Strangest Way (1993) (850276). 3.40-5.10am New Eden (1994) (86212363). MOYIE CHAINEL

6.00am Tintin: The Seven Crystal

Balls and Prisoners of the Sun (1987) (4402417). 7.20 The Care Bears Movie II: A New Generation (1986) (1125900). 8,40 Sherlock: Undercover Dog (1994) (1850558). 9.55 The Man with the Golden Gun (1974) (85496639). 12.00 Johnny's Girl (1995) (45436). 2.00 The Spy Who Loved Me (1977) (35784). 4.00 Rookle of the Year (1993) (9504), 6.00 As Good as Dead (1995). Two women swap identities to allow one to use the other's medical Insurance - but when events take a tragic turn, the re-maining friend begins to realise there may be more to the situation than meets the eye. Thriller starring Traci Lords, Judge Reinhold and Crystal Bernard (24368). 8.00 Circle of Friends (1995). A naive young woman leaves her small vil-

1950s Dublin, where her eyes are opened to city life by an old friend. Heart-warming romantic drama starring Chris O'Donnell, Minnie Driver and Colin Firth (29813). 10.00 Le Colonel Chabert (1994). An officer returns home from the Napoleonic wars after being reported missing in action — only to find his wife using his fortune to advance the career of her second husband. French drama, starring Girard Departieu, Fanny Ardant and Claude Rich (147829). 11.55 There Goes My Baby (1994). Com-edy drama set in 1965, following a group of soon-to-graduate colle group of soon-to-gradiate college students as they prepare for life In the big, bad world. Starring Dermot Mulroney, Rick Schnoder, Kelli Williams and Noah Wyte (979320). 1.35 Hoftywood Madam (1994) (1930566). 3.05 A Oan-

(1989). Ted Danson and Isabella Rossellini play cousins struggling the French romantic drama (3563368). 10.00 Nico (1988).

11.00am The Yearling (1946) (91281233). 1.10 The Great Santini (1979) (93471875). 3.05 The Man Who Knew Too Much (1956) (58527146), 5.05 Patton (1970) (61143542), 8.00 Cousins against their own powerful mutual attraction while their respective spouses are having an affair, Sean Young, Lloyd Bridges and William Petersen co-star in this remake of Steven Seagal stars as a tough coo

7.00am Record Breakers (1567078). 7,30 Blue Peter (1579813). 8.00 Animal Magic (4225165). 8.30 Jacksnory (2013707). 8.45 Chigley

(2001962). 9.00 Survivors (9580813). 10.00 Or Who (3082417). 1.20 Film: Carry on Girls (1973) (68122146). 3.00 The Bill Omnibus (61298287). The Bill Uminious (6129287). 5.20 Going Stralght (2902875). 6.00 Bullseye (8720455). 6.30 What a Carry On! (8711707). 7.00 Dick Emery (7473610). 7.30 After the Show (8700691). 8.00 Film: Madame Sousatzka (1988). (55340349), 10.15 Boys from the Blackstuff (91910287), 11.25 5pitting)mage (5800691), 12.00 Carrott Corridential (243-4585). 12.40 Film: Find the Lady (1976) (34655382). 2.05-7.00am 5hopping at Night (15796276).

SXY SPORTS 1 7.00am World Sport Special (26813). 7.30 Cricket: Zimba Vs England - Second Test - Live (2631981): 3,00 Football; Southampton Vs Liverpool - Live (6175078). 6.30 Basketball: Manchester Giants Vs Derby Storm (595829). **9.00 Cric**ket (256813). 11.30 Football Special (244078). 2.00-4.30am Basketball

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Soccer Extra (2308436). 7.00am Soccer Extra (2308436).
11.00 Goals on Sunday
(2458726). 12.00 American Football: Wildcard Play Off (7740356).
3.30 Ice Hockey (7367726). 5.30
Trans World Sport (9173349). Trans World Sport (9173349). 6.30 Football League Review (9922165), 7:30 Angling Masters (2608875). 8.30 Football Special (8092707). 11.00 Chympics: Sprinters (2439691). 12.00-1.00am Cricket; Sporting Classics - West Indies Vs England 1994 (6812740).

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00noon Football League Review (43161233). 1.00 Darts: WDC Classic FM Classic Romance 12.00 Calebrity Choice 1.00 Alan Mann's Packed

7.00 Countdown Top 10 of 1996 8.00 World Opera 10.30 Howard's Week 12.00 Andre Leon 4.00-6.00am Mark Grifft

(1984/z UV) 1.00am Newsdesk 1.30 Short Story 1.Judam Newsclesk 1.30 Short Story 1.45 On the Move 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Anything Goos 3.00 News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Heritage 4.00 Newsclesk 4.30 Off the Shelfs Web Central 4.45 Country Style 5.00 Newsday 5.30-6.00am Composer of the Month

Satellite and Cable

SKY MOVIES 5.00am Dreamer (1979) (37252). 8.00 The Neptune Factor (1973) (57271). 10.00 Freefall: Flight 174 (1993) (49468726). 11.55

Octopussy (1983) (64031748)

2.05 Other Women's Children (1993) (969146), 4.00 Thunder-

Galdfinger (1964). James Bond

gerous Affair (1994) (284450). 4.40-5.55am Sheriock: Undercover Dog (1994) (44053295). SAY MOVIES AND

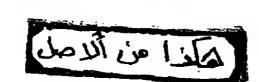
ers a conspiracy involving the CIA, a drugs ring and government cor-ruption. With Parn Grier and Sharon Stone (9944558), 11.45 Be (1988). Thriller starring Debra Winger, Tom Berenger and Betsy Blair (38741691). 1-55 Julia (1977) (3502943), 3.50 A Day's Pleasure (1919) (86737092). 4.15-5.50am Golden Earrings (1947) (7827905)

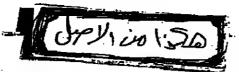
World Championship - Live (42877184). 5.00 World 5port Special (41638368). 5.30 Drag Racing (83311504). 6.00 Water sports (43167417), 7.00 Darts: WDC World Championship - Live (40157233). 11.30-12.00mld-

7.30am Eurofun (22748). 8.00 Alpine Skling (39813). 8.30 Alpine Skling (74320). 9.30 Offroad (99097). 10.30 Alpine Skiing (6394829), 11.45 Albine Si (4159504). 1.00 Tennis (91639).

(4159504), 1.00 lemns (91639), 3.00 Alpine Skiing (30455), 4.00 Ski-Jumping (79558), 5.30 Ali Sports (76252), 6.30 Olympic Games (5813), 7.00 Figure Skat-ing (72207), 9.00 Ali Sports (15146), 9.30 Olympic Games (57707), 10.00 Formula One (46504). 11.00-12.30am Skj-Jumping (85436).

6.00am Revelations 6.30 Looking for Love 7.00 Spanish Archer 7.30 Mind and Body 8.00 Why Files 8.30 Video Box 9.00 Psychic Pets 9.30 Fashion 10.00 Revelations 10.30 Looking for Love 11.00 Campus Capers 11.30 Spanish Archer 12.00 Revelations 12,30 Why Files 1.00 Looking for Love 1.30 Psychic Pets 2.00 Fashlon 2.30 Mind and Body 3.00 Canary Wharf Omnibus 4.30 Campus Capers 5.00 Revelations 5.30 Looking for Love 6.00 Fashion 6.30 unday Sport Live 7.00 9panish Archer 7.30 Revelations 3.00 Psychic Pels 8.30 Why Files 9.00 Seventies Pop 5how 9.30 Looking for Love 10.03 5unday Sport Live 10.30 Stand-Up Live Special: Jim Bowen Presents On Codl 11.30
Edenquest with Sandra Taylor
12.30 Kiss TV: Kiss Lifestyle 1.30
Home Shopping 2.00 Stand-Up quest with Pamela Anderson 3.30. 6.00am Night-Time Programmes





sport

Turf Moor's pies were described as 'tremendous'. The award must have been a tonic to fans who have had little to cheer recently

Apologies to all turkeys, who have no choice in the matter, but the aim and New Year period, when up to 12 points are at stake, is in avoid get-ting stuffed. Ironically, most fans will do completely the opposite and stuff themselves on turkey and all the trimmings. You would think catering takings at grounds at this time of year must show an unhealthy deficit with fans suffering from the

effects of over-indulgence. Being a veggie, I tend to miss out at Christmas and football grounds. Not that I'm bothered about the latter; I've often questioned the wisdom of spending the 15 minutes of half-time queueing for a soggy meat pie and a cup of tea only to find that by the time you've got back 10 your seat they're lukewarm - and ten the Nationwide League sweeps

yon're 1-0 down. That's happened the honours board when the fat cats I was pre-occupied not by the action but by the thought of my half-time toddy (even if it was only PG Tips). Unfortunately I hadn't reck-oned on 12,000 likeminded fans -Rangers had scored twice against Dundee by the time I reclaimed my

Then, several seasons ago at Frat-ton Park, Portsmouth and West Ham served up such a dull first half that I headed for refreshments a minute before the half was up, only to hear a familiar roar which certainly was not applause for a rousing first 45.

Burnley fans, however, have more reason than most to head off early for their half-time pie. It's not of-

to me twice. I'm ashamed to admit of the Premiership are in the run-l was once so cold at Dens Park that ning, but, according to a recent survey, when it comes to pies the East Lancastrian club really takes the his-

> Turf Moor's pies were described as "tremendous, featuring lightly spiced potatoes blended with lean chunks of meat in a rich gravy, and perfect pastry - slightly soggy yet suc-culent casing to absorb the juice and a light and firm crust". The award must have been a tonie to fans who have had precious little to cheer in

Rochdale scooped a double honour: coming fourth and also receiving a special commendation for pastry of which Delia Smith, Britain's lavourite cook and Norwich's most well-known director, would be

Olivia Blair



prond. But I was surprised to find that the famous Forfar Bridie was conspicuous by its absence. In fact, Scottish culinary delights (which might seem a contradiction in terms)
hardly got a look-in, perhaps because

pakoras rather than pies are an Ibrox favourite, while that Scottish spe-decided it's more than just fans' footciality, the deep-fried pizza, goes down a treat at Easter Road.

However, Scotland still has some champion pies, of which the Bridie is one: a tasty, flat mince (that's muttoo, before you groan) pie made with flaky pastry. The Hearts chairman Chris Robinson may be known as the Pie Man because he owns the Wheatsbeaf catering company, but in reality the Forfar fare is only matched by the pies on offer at Kil-marnock, The "Killie Special" is in fact so special that the Proclaimers were so enamoured of the succulent pies they consumed at Rugby Park while watching Hibs play they de-cided to immortalise them in a track entitled, unsurprisingly, The Killie Pie.
On a more weighty matter, it

decided it's more than just fans' football tastebuds which need titiliating. Preston have entered their Great Room restaurant facilities in the new Tom Finney stand into the Booker Prize for Standard Of Food Excellence, while Newcastic and Man-

chester United have raised standards in the kitchen as well as on the pitch. The grub on offer at St. James' Park's Magpie Room Reschurant has been described as "dishort than David Ginola". To whet the ap-petite: spicy chicken sausages with Calvados sauce and seared scallops with butter beans and leatils. "We're showing what can be done in a foot-ball club and I hope this will be the start of even better things." No, not Kevin Keegan, but executive chef John Blackmore, former chef de

partie at the Park Lane Intercontinental, who has had as much of an influence on the palate at Newcastle as Keegan has on the pitch. St James' is the first football stadium to be listed in the Good Food Guide.

Over at Old Trafford the Red Cafe is the latest attraction: a 200-seater themed restaurant inside the North Stand where the menu reflects United's increasingly continental-look line-up: deep-fried pearls of mozzarella with gooseberry and nectarine compote; scampicalypso; and monk-fish tails in a black bean sauce.

Of course, considering a three-course meal for a family of four at the Cafe will cost an average of £47, and that a ticket is upwards of £12 a head on top, it's no wonder the good old pie remains the more at-

United look rested and in threatening form

Football **GUY HODGSON**

Boxing Day was originally an occasion for giving and the Pre-mership's leading clubs adhered to tradition on Thursday, sprinkling points like needles from a festive tree. There was just one exception and no one was surprised to discover the man behind that piece of parsimony was football's old

skinflint, Alex Ferguson, Only Manchester United won out of the top seven two days ago and suddenly they are looming like ghosts of Christmas past in third place. They go into today's match against Leeds United five points behind the leaders Liverpool with a game in hand and with the momentum of nine goals without reply in their last two matches.

We've got to keep this going," Ferguson, whose hunger and energy to succeed is one of the wonders of the game, said. "It's a particularly demanding time. We must ensure that we are still among the challengers

at the end of the festive period." Ferguson's dilemma today will be whether to start with return to fitness from two broken legs by scoring in the 4-0 de-feat of Nottingham Forest. The £7m striker came on for Ole Gunnar Solskjaer at the City Ground but, as the Norwegian has scored three times in the last two matches, dropping him will

not be a decision taken lightly. Not that sentiment usually clouds Ferguson's decisions and he now has the hixury of seeing past disruptions to his team as a an after-match press confer-hlessing. "Nobody apart from ence and, following Ferguson's hlessing. "Nobody apart from Eric Cantona and David Beckham has played a lot of games," he said. "All the rest have had a mixed and short season and they are looking good and fresh."

they produced their best performance of the season for a 3-1 victory that included a goal from Tony Yeboah. The Ghanaian came on for his first senior outing for nine months against Coventry on Thursday and he is likely to start this afternoon.

It required only one encounter with second-placed Arsenal for Kevin Pressman to reduce his view of their championship chances. The Sheffield Wednesday goalkeeper had a largely untroubled night against the Gunners on Thursday and put my money on Liverpool. They're the best-balanced side we've met this season."

As for Arsenal, he added: "They're hard to break down," which is where we were before

what the Gunners' manager made of his team's performance against Wednesday is not known because he did not turn up for

similar non-appearance the pre-vious week, Hillsborough is be-

coming the Bermuda Triangle of visiting managers' thoughts. Wednesday have not lost since The last time the champions met today's opponents, a 4-0 win ended Howard Wilkinson's from that to rotate his players, managership at Elland Road although, if there is one match the Leeds players the Leeds players rested against Arsenal and are rested against Arsenal and are be without the suspended Franck

> Nevertheless he is not entirely satisfied. "I keep reading about Leeds United that you need to sort out the back door before you look at the front," he said, and we've become hard to beat. Our problem now is scoring. I think we've got some goals our locker."

Leboeuf and Dennis Wise.

Perhaps, as Ruud Gullit seems to suggest, it is simply becoming more difficult for teams to impose themselves. Chelsea's player-manager is impressed Andy Cole, who underlined his said: "If I was a betting man, I'd with the quality of the Premiership, saying it is improving fast. "It's very open. Perhaps it's be-cause there are more foreigners now, maybe because of the way England played in Euro 96.

Arsène Wenger arrived promis-ing style with resilience.Quite tention on the Premiership from abroad now. The standard is certainly better. Clubs are spending money to try to get re-sults, and that's got lo be good."

Coventry got both goals and a good result against Leeds, securing only their second win in 32 attempts at Elland Road. Attention will be turned today on their goalkeeper. Steve Ogri-zovic, 39, will make his 544th appearance for the Sky Blues against Middlesbrough, breaking a 26-year-old record set by his former manager, George Curtis, He has been around long

enough to have played with and against Graeme Souness and Martin O'Neill, who will be pitting their sides, Southampton and Leicester, against the clubs where they had their greatest playing days. There seems little chance of them getting mistyeyed, bowever. Sonness plays host to the

leaders Liverpool Iomorrow, saying: "It's just the first of a lot of tough games," while O'Neill will prepare for the visit of bottom-placed Nottingham Forest with scarcely a thought. for the club with whom he won. championship and European Cup-winning medals, "I enjoyed my time at Forest and in normal circumstances I would like to see them play away from trouble," he said. "But it's a dogeat-dog world." It will be the theme of the day.



Andy Cole celebrates his return for United on Boxing Day with a goal Photograph: Empics

Clough is keen to stay on

DERRICK WHYTE

Nigel Clough, who is in the middle nf a one-month loan spell at Nottingham Forest, wants to make his return to the City Ground permanent. Clough was signed from Manchester City on a temporary basis by Stuart Pearce, Forest's carctaker player-manager, and the striker has told the club he would like to

complete a permanent move. Meanwhile, Pearce has opened talks aimed at securing the long-term future of the midfielder Alf Inge Haland at the City Ground. The Norwegian, whose current deal ends in the summer, has been the subject of an inquiry - though not a formal bid - from Leeds. Manchester United have also

been linked with the player. Gary Breen, Birmingham City's highly rated central de-fender, is likely to be out of action for a month after an incident outside a restaurant in London. The Republic of Ireland international needed stitches in a head wound and suffered a broken hand.

Italian newspapers have reported that Roberto Baggio, the Milan striker, has lost up to six billion lire (£2.35m) in an alleged investment scandal. Ba gio was one of at least 200 people - reported to include a number of footballers - who placed money in a finance company based in the Adriatic resort of Rimini.

Komen has weight of history behind his challenge

"But whatever the reason

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The nationalities of the past five winners of the County Durham International Cross-Country reflect the balance of power in

middle-distance running. Since 1991, when the Durham event became part of the World tion at Cross Challenge, the International Amateur Athletic Federation's integrated cross-country series, the men first past the post have been: Kenyan, Ethiopian, Ethiopian, Kenyan, and Ethiopian. It is going to take something record of 12min 51.60sec; set a

age, Daniel Komen arrived in the freezing environs of Durham yesterday as the coming man in middle-distance running.

Despite missing the Olympics after finishing only fourth in Kenya's high-altitude Olympic trials, the former world junior 5,000 and 10,000m world champion put together a staggering sequence of races in the latter part of the summer season; he clocked the third-fastest 5.000m in history, a Commonwealth

unusual to prevent another Kenyan adding himself to that sequence today. At 20 years of eclipsed Noureddine Morceli's 3.000m world record of 7min 25.11sec with 7.20.67.

Komen's compatriot Ismail Kirui, a former 5,000m world champion, has pulled out of the event, but Komen arrived safely yesterday after spending one and a half days travelling from Nairobi.

"I promised I would run and I don't want to let anyone down," Komen said. "I'm hoping to win but I know that Jon Brown is in good form."

The aforementinned Brit, too much mental energy."

who two weeks ago won the European cross-country title in Belgian mud, faces a far harder task today in both senses of the word, But he is the best-placed to emulate the last British win-

ner, Eamonn Martin (1990). Brown, who insisted this week that his target is a top-six placing in the world cross-country championship in Turin three months hence, was cautious in his forecast. "I want to do well and it would be nice to win it," he said from his Düsseldorf training base. "But I don't want to expend energy unnecessarily or use up

Paul Evans, this year's Chicago Marathon winner, and Andrew Pearson, the runner-up in Durham last year, will add to the British challenge against a field which includes Kenya's Christopher Kelong and last

year's winner, Assefa Mezgebu. The women's race has Britain's Paul Radcliffe, the Olympic 5,000m finalist, making her first major appearance since recovering from a knee injury. Raddiffe, the winner at Durham in 1993 and last year, faces opposition from the world crosscountry champion Getenesh Wami - an Ethiopian, naturally.

Taylor aiming for fifth title

Phil Taylor will be chasing a fifth world title and a record first prize of £45,000 when he begins his latest defence at the Red Band World Championship at

Taylor, 36, won the official Embassy World Darts title in 1990 and 1992 and then broke away with 15 other top players to form the World Darts Council. Taylor has since won the WDC version of the world title for the past two years. Twenty-

AROUND THE RESORTS

SPORTING DIGEST

tonight and the Sheffield Sharks lose against their cup final opponents, the London Leopards, tomorrow.

The Jets have finished in the league's bottom three for the past three seasons but this season they have won 10 out of 15 games and are a home hanker against struggling Worthing

Leopards, 104-100, at the London Arena last month in a controversial clash when nine players were fouled out of the match

London Towers, the defending league champions in a three-way tie at the top, have a

the Circus Tavern in Purfleet. Thomas Cook

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Jets can cement their place on top

Chester Jets, the unlikely joint leaders of the Budweiser League at Christmas, will go clear at the top of the table over the new year period providing they beat the Worthing Bears

THURSDAY'S LATE RESULT: Bell's Scottlet Leggie Premier Division: Aberdeen 1 (Dodds 1,4) Celtic 2 (Cadete 41, Di Canio 83).

The Dates Mavericks traded the injured and disgranted Al-Star point guard, Jason Kird, to the Phoents Suns on Thusday as part of a six-player deal. The Mavericks acquired guard Sam Cassell and forwards Michael Finley and A C Green from the Suns. Phoenis, who also gave up a second-round draft pick in 1997 or 1998, acquired guard Tony Dumas and centre Loren Meyer.

Christian Laetiner scored a career-high 37 points as the Atlanta Hawks beat the Chicago Bulls 108-103 on Thurs-day. The Hawks won their 10th con-scoutive home game while the Bulls had an eight-game winning streak broken. an cignt-game winning streak broken.
NBA: Toronto 98 New Jersey 96; Adanta 108.
Chicago 103: Indiana 95 Detrini 86 (oct; his-ami 96 Ortando 76; Minnesota 88 New York 80; Golden State 113 Dellas 106; Houston 101 Milleuvice 90; Philadelphia 118 Deres 89; Utah 99 Portland 94; Sectile 94 San Antonio 86; Secremento 111 Vencouver 88.

Northern Transveel, requiring 232 for vic-tory, were 46 for 3 in their second in-nings at the close on the second day of the four-day Supersport Series match against Boland yesterday. SUPERSPORT SERIES (Panel, SA) Second day of four): Boland 170 and 179 (K C.Jack-son 92, M J G Davis 6-80); Northern Trans-

TRANSPERS: Phil Stant (forward) Sury to Lin-com (undisclosed fee); Soot: Fitzgerald (defender) Wimbledon to Milwall (loan); Kenny Brown (defender) West Ham to Bem-ingham (loan); David Lucas (greiteeper) Pre-sion to Scundhorps (loan).

Sheffield Steelers are to send video ev-Sheffield Steelers are to send video evidence to the British loc Hockey Association after Jamie Leach, their leading points scorer, suffered a horrific injury in Thursday's defeat by Cardiff Devils. Leach had to leave the ice late in the game with a gash just below his left eye following a high sticking incident involving the Great Britain skipper, Shannon Hope. X-rays revealed a double fracture of the cheekings which will keep him sidecheckbone which will keep him side

NHL: Buffalo 5 Hardord 1; Detrok 5 Wash-ingson 4 jou; NY Islanders 4 New Jensey 1; Ottowa 5 NY Rangers 2; Plusburgh 3 Mon-peal 3 (ob; Tampa Bay 3 Flonde 3 (ob; Chicago 4 St Louis 4 fot); Los Angeles 5 Phoenix 2; San Jose & Vancouver 1.

The French downhill racer Nicolas Burtin miured his right knee and leg yes-terday, in a spill on the loy Stelvio course during the first training run for a World Cup speed race in Bormio, Italy. Burtin, on his third season on the World Cup circuit, had his best career result in Val Gardena in 1994, when he came eighth in a downhill.

INTEREST RATE CHANGE

Investment and Savings With effect from 31st December 1996, the interest rates for the following share and deposit accounts will be as shown below. Only the bands where interest rates have changed are shown.

All other bands and accounts remain unchanged. Type of Account SPECIAL 83 85 days' notice £100,000 and over CAR f CAR+ £25,000 to £49,009 CAR 1 £[0,000 to £24,999 CLAR † £5,000 to £9,999 C.A.R. 1 £2,500 to £4,999 C.1.R. † TESSA ELITE (DEPOSIT) AND TESSA ELITE (SHARE*) TESSA ELITE II

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£500 to £2,499 HIGH RISE (DEPOSIT) AND HIGH (SHARE") (SHARCE*) Instant access £100,000 and over £50,000 to £49,999 £25,000 to £49,999 £10,000 to £24,999 £5,000 to £9,000 £2,500 to £4,990

£100 to £499 HEADSTART (DEPOSIT) AND HEADSTART Instant access £150 and over BUSINESS GOLD 4.50 5.60 Type of Account CLIENTS RESERVE £100,000 and over £5,000 to £9,990 52,500 to £1,999 £300 to £2,499 £100 to £499 BUSINESS EXTRA £30,000 to £99,996 £100 to £499 CHARITY ACCOUNT EIDHLOOD and over C100 to £499 SUPER SAVER IDEPOSIT) AND (SHARE*)
(rate including

£1,000 and 18er £1,000 p. £4,994 £20 m £999 1.55 1.10 INVESTMENT SHARE with the HIGH RISE rates shown above.

£3,000 p. £9,999 The interest rates on all other accounts and interest rate bands will remain unchanged, except where individual nonlication is made, Interest will be paid

gross to non-taxpaters subject to charbility and the paid after deduction of income tax at the appropriate rate, currently 20%.

† Gross Compounded Annual Rate where the interest is resincested in the account mounts.

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From a Canary to a Ram What a difference a year has made for Ashley Ward, Page 22

Zimbabwe stick to their plan

Cricket

DEREK PRINGLE reports from Harare England 156 Zimbabwe 93-2

This was the second time in two days England have been rained upon from a very great height. Although this time it was more literal than metaphorical, with all but four balls of the final session being wiped out, you still get the impression that England are being toyed with from above as well as oo the field.
The downpour, which lasted

for two hours, meant that Zimbaliwe only batted for 48.4 overs. At less than two runs per over, it was painfully slow go-ing - and yet this is how Test cricket is meaot to be played and anyone who saw the nuts and bolts going into the longterm construction of Zimbabwe's total cannot have failed to realise that it was simply an il-lustration of how to bat in a fiveday match. Something England, the old-stagers of the game, appear to have forgotten.

Oo the other hand, England optimists - a hreed almost as thick-skinned and rare as the black Rhino itself - will see the rain as an opportunity for Michael Athertoo's team to get back into the match, with the time lost forcing Zimhabwe to swap their plodding game plan for something more inherently

If so, they have failed to reckon with two things; firstly, Grant Flower's rooting ability on this black cotton soil pitch; and, secondry, the fact that English have the wrong bowling attack to exploit such a slow surface.

Flower, at least here at Harare Sports Club, is about as immovable as one of Raymond Illingworth's opinions. Two years ago here, he hit an 11-hour double-century against Pakistao in the longest innings ever by a Zimhabwe player - its monolithic qualities, as well as the slowness of the outfield, being emphasised by the fact that just 10 fours were scored.

The bad news for just about everyone is that he is still there. the unperturbed frequency of



England's Phil Tufnell flees the field pursued by the groundstaff carrying the covers as rain brings play to an early end in Harare yesterday

failed to be upheld.

one stage, just before tea, England thought they had prised him from his crease. Alec Stewart completed a smart leg-side take off Robert Croft that every close fielder felt the batsman had hit. Not out said umpire Russell Tiffin and Flower went on to finish the day unbeaten on 33, having spent almost 200 minutes at the crease.

As tenures go, it was about life from England's bowlers. At three hours longer than that of

his opening partner, the left-handed Mark Dekker, who, after being drafted in to replace Stuart Carlisle, had the misfortune to receive and theo edge a bali Alan Mullally managed to slant away from him.

Before yesterday, Mullally's approach with the ball had beco to try and bore out the unboreable, with a spectacular lack of success. Yesterday, however, he ran in with real purpose,

will wane every time the match tightened his line and even got the ball to swing in to the righthanders, although several close pair, Darreo Gough and Craig calls for low against Flower

He is the only pace bowler in England's side comfortable with pitching the full length required on this wicket. A criterioo both Andy Caddick and Chris Silverwood would surely have better fulfilled instead of one of the spinners, whose effectiveness

gets further shrunk by rain. By cootrast, the Yorkshire

White, like to bang the ball into the pitch preferring to use the full-pitched ball - mainly in-swinging yorkers - as a surprise. It is a method Gough more

or less confirmed after his 11 wickets against Matabeleland, when he boldly announced that he was "not a line and length bowler". They were never comfortable with the strictures placed on them by conditions and a desperate captain.

Such reticence normally produces a stream of unremarkable deliveries, and one, a long-hop from around the wicket bowled by White, managed to see off Alistair Campbell, who sliced his cut shot straight to Graham Thorpe at first slip.

It is about the only time that Thorpe, whose batting is going through a wretched patch, has contributed to England's cause in this series. It has been a coofidence-sapping experience that. many believe would have been better alleviated had England batted the in-form John Crawley in froot of him at No 5. Crawley, who with Phil

Sports officials who helped to

Photograph: Stu Forster/Allsport thought he had been lucky to get away with some of the tactics he Tirfnell added a further 19 runs in the morning, is probably

The relief did not stop there 220-minute stay at the crease unbeaten on 47, after Tufnell either and is an unprecedented move the English media, feelchested a short ball from Heath Streak on to his stumps. That dismissal brought Streak

his fourth wicket. A welcome fillip after the bowler had beeo fined 15 per cent of his match fee (1,000 Zimbabwe dollars or about £60) by the match referee, Hammant Singh, for saying he

playing the most assured cricket of his career and he ended his

ing that the bowler had been unjustly punished, clubbed

had used to stop England win-

together to pay Streak's fine for him. A gesture made towards the "defence of free speech." A maxim this current England team is having difficulty in coming to terms with.

HARARE SCOREBOARD

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Progress: Lanch: 36-1 (6 Flower 16, Campbell 15) 17 overs, 50: 103 min, 25.3 overs, Year 93-2 (G Rower 33, Houghton 26) 48 overs, Relia stopped play: 2.05pm. Play absendened: 4.03pm.

Umpires: KT Francis (Sri Laures) and R & Tillin (Zmi).

particular success in women's

Flower shows all batsmen • the way

HENRY BLOFELD

Zimbabwe have so far taught England two lessons about the requirements of success on this desperately slow pitch. On the first day the bowlers underlined the importance of pitching the ball up and bowling straight, on. the second the barsmen demonstrated the necessity for careful stroke selection.

Numerically, this must seem to be just about the dullest Test match in history. In 310 minutes. on the first day 137 runs were scored from 73 overs: in a fraction more than four hours on the second; 112 came from 59 and yet it has always been absorbing.

This has been the ultimate grafters wicket and the Zimbabwean batsmen restrained themselves better than their English counterparts. After the early loss of Mark

Dekker, Grant Flower showed: that if there is one barsmen in the world better able to cope on such a surface, it is his brother Andrew. The combined adhesiveness

of the Flowers can be taken for granted. What could not was the way in which Alistair Campbell and Dave Houghton, both natoral stroke makers, did their best to curb their instincts. Campbell managed for 18 overs while Houghton, not without occasionally making the bowlets think they had a chance, has so far been in for 25 overs. Grant Flower provided the

inspiration and example as he. pushed and deflected and occasionally drive, foot to the pitch and head right over the ball His concentration is of Boycott proportions.

He oever cut or hooked, he

oever grew Impatieot and seemed set only on playing an even longer innings than the 112 his brother made in 365 minutes last week in Bulawayo.

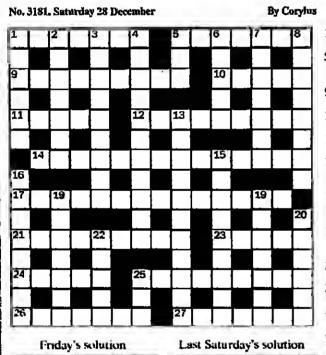
If they but together for any length of time in this innings it will be as close to stalemate as cricket is ever likely to get.

Campbell, tall, lithe and lefthanded began by trying to drive Robert Croft and, to his in-creasing frustration, was never able to time the ball. He soon realised the folly of his ways and became happy to join his part-ner in a desultory search for singles. From time to time as a variation he used the pace of the seamers to glance or run the ball

Houghton was even more praiseworthy for he looked more out of sorts when having to play this sort of game. He took few real risks and he was; only prepared to sweep the spinners when the ball was: oitched outside off stump.

The England batsmen, who are likely to have quite a job oo their hands in the second innings, had better have takeo

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



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- Where child plays could 1 make you spit? (7) Allowed to have access to legal document? This 3 A scrap and a riot tomust be cancelled (7)
- Prolongation of old 10 Puzzle about what moves commuters (5)
- 11 Crossing an equine animal (5) 12 Stop ehicken production at source? Some con-
- sumers like this (6.3) Who might start this kinsman's rumour of Santa? (8,6)
- 17 They could keep you going three rounds filling in twice (4,10) 21 Poor star's had doing
- the splits? (9) 23 Arah woman in place of
- contest (5) 24 Getting cold and taking a chance as day fails (5) 25 Alibi unacceptable to Scottish town's jurisdic-
- tion (9) 26 Expert manipulator of figures (7) 27 Mischievous type of girl

DOWN

- Seen off at zero not half showing effect of cold (6) Worthy of remark bul
- gether will attract these? 4 Having very little to hide
- (4-7) 5 Agreement over river (3) 6 Part of lovely Richmond theatre (5)

Greek character carries

- skilful live performance 8 Greed is a variable in conflict (8) 13 Report of bringing on
- baby too fast is arrogant 15 Awfully cruel about set-
- ting up life to make a 16 Disgusting CIA acts net-ted one a complaint (8)
- 18 Not examined, being on remand? (7)
- 19 Book having letters like "zee"? (7)
 20 Disappoint with letters
- from Bulgaria? (6) 22 Apprehensive state in English street (5) 25 There's no profit in cheap drinks place (3)

The first five currect solutions to this week's guzzie opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the new Oxford Dictionary of Quotations. Answers and winners' names will be published next Saturday. Send solutions a Saturday. Send solutions as Saturday. Crossword, P. O. Box 4918. The independent, I Conned Square, Camary Wharf, London E14 5BL. Please use the bex number and postcode and give your own postcode. Last week's winners: Philip Ducre, lovie, Peter Roots, Bushridge Wells; J Lynch, Penylan, Ken Price, Brimant: Irene Rue, Inverlocithing.

make former East Germany a dominant force in certain Olympic disciplines are facing the prospect of being charged with causing bodily harm for supplying competitors with banned performance-enhancing

A spokesman for the Berlin justice ministry said prosecutors were preparing charges against about 50 East German sports administrators, doctors and trainers, and that the first charges could be brought next

"The investigations are con-

tinuing," said Rüdiger Reiff, the justice ministry spokesman. "It weightlifting. is a very large and complicated issue. The charges being pre-pared are bodily harm through population of 17 million, East Germany consistently produced

men and women." The investigations, which were opened about 18 mooths ago, involve huge amounts of ulations at least 15 times as big documentation so, to make to call upon. The country found their cases more manageable,

doping of East German sports-

WE - First lookings

prosecutors have focused on

swimming and men's cycling in OPublished by Newspaper Publishing PLC, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145DL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, St Albans Road, Watford Back issues available from Historic Newspapers, 01988 840570.

Saturday 21 December 1990 Registered as a newspaper with the Post Office.

East Germans face drug charges Europe and beyood in the

Despite its relatively small About 20 athletes have already filed suit against their former mentors, among them the a string of champions, winning weightlifter Roland Schmid almost as many Olympic medals who had to have removed from as the United States or former his chest some breast-like tissue. Soviet Union, whose had popwhich apparently had developed because of steroid abuse.

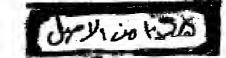
The complexities of the issue mean that charges will be laid only in cases where the athlet-were giveo drugs without their knowledge, which means pros-ecutors are concentrating prin-cipally oo the doping of children

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